Friday January 9 1981
No 60,821
Price twenty pence

THE TIMES

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Mr John Nott's baptism of fire, page 10

Agreement on EEC posts after angry dispute

Mrs Margaret Thatcher intervened personally on behalf of Mr Christopher Tugendhat, one of the British European Commissioners, as the allocation of posts in the new Commission degenerated into an acrimonious, arm-twisting argument in Brussels early yesterday. Mr Tugendhat emerged with his powers intact and added responsibility.

New President in clash with Mrs Thatcher

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Jan 8

The distribution of posts in the new European Commission was finally agreed here early today after scenes of acrimony, insults, and arm-twisting by at least one national government for which even old hands in Brussels could recall few parallels.

The outcome was not at all bad for Britain's two Commissioners, Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the former Conservative MP, who has been appointed to serve another four-year term, and Mr Ivor Richard, the former Labour MP and British Ambassador to the United Nations, a *newcomer to Brussels.*

Mr Tugendhat retained control of the EEC budget and the Community's financial institutions, and was also entrusted with taxation policy, previously a separate portfolio under another Commissioner.

For his part Mr Richard obtained employment and social affairs, education and vocational training policy, and responsibility for organizing the periodic "tripartite conferences" between EEC trade unions, employers and member governments.

This satisfactory result was *achieved, however, only after* a fierce clash between Mr Tugendhat and Mr Gaston Thorn, the new President of the Commission, in which the *British Commissioner in effect* accused the former Luxembourg Prime Minister of double-crossing him and hatching a plot to *whittle down his job.*

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, in circumstances which are still not entirely clear, then also became involved in the dispute, demanding to speak on the telephone to Mr Thorn, who at first refused to take her call.

In tones of high dudgeon, the Prime Minister, who at that stage had only Mr Tugendhat's version of events, was reported by one well-placed source as having told Mr Thorn that what he was proposing was "a calculated insult to Britain".

Mr Thorn, deftly fielding questions at a press conference this morning about his talk with Mrs Thatcher, said that "some people had been trying to impute things to me and we had to clear that up".

Mrs Thatcher had wanted assurances on certain points, and he believed he had been able to give them.

All *this sound* and fury arose out of Mr Thorn's attempts to find a worthwhile job for Mr Michael O'Kennedy, the former Irish Foreign Minister, who re*jected a number of offers as* inadequate. Social Affairs, which he might have accepted, had already gone to Mr Richard.

Mr Thorn then produced a suggestion that Mr O'Kennedy should assist him in coordinating the preparation of the proposals *on the reform of the* EEC's financial system which the Commission has been asked by *member states to produce* by June.

It was at this point that Mr Tugendhat erupted. Informed sources described him as "absolutely astonished" by Mr Thorn's *proposal*, which had come as "a bolt out of the blue". He was said to be astounded that Mr Thorn had not had the courtesy to discuss it with him privately first.

Mr Tugendhat apparently feared that Mr O'Kennedy was being offered some overseer function in the reform of the EEC's finances, an exercise in which as Budget Commissioner he had always expected to play the leading part with the President.

Many observers believe that Mr Tugendhat, encouraged by some of his officials, grossly exaggerated the threat to his position, and that the offer to Mr O'Kennedy was never more than an important-sounding title to disguise an otherwise thin portfolio.

None the less, wrangling over the definition of Mr O'Kennedy's job continued for many hours, causing growing irritation and anger among other Commissioners. Finally, Herr Karl-Heinz Narjes, the new German Commissioner, could no longer contain himself and shouted at the Irishman to "stop behaving like a schoolboy".

It was finally agreed to describe Mr O'Kennedy as a "delegate of the President" with particular reference to financial reform. Both sides claimed to be happy with this wording, which could mean quite a lot or very little, and probably the latter.

At his press conference Mr *Thorn conceded* that Mr O'Kennedy's job was an experiment which might turn out to have little substance. It appears that he will sit in for the President at certain meetings and play some kind of coordinating role. But Mr Thorn made clear that Mr O'Kennedy would be able to do nothing without the approval of other Commissioners.

RAF patrol's bravery praised after bomb blast

By Stewart Tendler
and Derek Barnett

A bomb wrecked part of a barracks at RAF Uxbridge, West London, last night, seconds after Servicemen had dragged away drums of petrol packed round the device. Their action *prevented the blast from* causing greater damage and fire.

Up to 40 Servicemen were evacuted from the building before the explosion and the only casualities were two civilians outside the station who were slightly hurt by flying glass.

*Last night there were no indi*cations of responsibility for the bomb. The Ministry of Defence said security at Service bases had recently been tightened against any attacks over the Christmas period and RAF Uxbridge had its own detachment of Ministry of Defence police.

The bomb was placed just inside the double doors of a three-storey barracks called Suvla Block not far from the camp perimeter.

The explosives were placed in a blue satchel similar to RAF issue and four five-gallon plastic drums of petrol were placed round it. The drums, of a type used for liquids such as vinegar, had taps which were turned on so that petrol began to trickle out. The petrol seepage would have increased the effectiveness of the device.

But shortly after 5.30 pm a policeman on a routine patrol saw the barrels and then the satchel with wires hanging out. As the alarm was raised the policeman, the station warrant officer and an airman carried the drums away from the satchel to a stretch of grass near by.

They had just set down the last of the drums when the bomb exploded. Later Deputy Assistant Commissioner David Powis, head of London's CID, said the men had acted "with courage and they have my admiration".

The blast caused extensive damage to the ground floor of *the building which is used for* Servicemen in transit.

RAF Uxbridge was opened during the First World War for the Royal Flying Corps and many Servicemen were trained there between the wars.

It became an important control centre for RAF fighters *during the Battle of Britain and* now houses training facilities for musicians, the RAF Regiment's Queen's Colour Squadron, and Servicemen's records.

Claim denied: An anonymous telephone caller to *The Sun* in London yesterday claimed responsibility on behalf of the Scottish Socialist Republican League for the parcel bomb addressed to the Prime Minister and defused at a sorting office in London on Wednesday. Later, *however*, the league said it had had nothing to do with the bomb.

The bomb was discovered at the Howick Place sorting office in Westminster, by Mr Edward Hamilton, aged 60, a postman, who was handstamping postmarks on a pile of parcels containing the bomb.

Mrs Thatcher said yesterday: "I am very grateful and pleased to see that our *postmen are so vigilant.*"

270 drowned

Macapa, Brazil, Jan 8.—At least 270 people drowned last night when a boat sank in the Jari river, a tributary of the Amazon. Police said they *believed* the boat struck a sand bank.—Reuter.

Royal commission wants network of Crown prosecutors' departments to be established

Wider stop and search powers recommended for police

By Marcel Berlins
and Frances Gibb

An extension of some police powers, coupled with safe*guards to protect* suspects in detention and under interrogation, are proposed by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure, in a report published yesterday.

The new powers were attacked by some groups as sweeping and excessive, but *were welcomed by the Police* Federation as a help on the beat.

In contrast, some of the proposed safeguards for suspects which would be formulated in a new statutory code, were welcomed by civil liberty groups, but Sir David McNee, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, said that they would make the task of the police in dealing with serious crime more difficult.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said that the report was unique in its scope and thoroughness. The Government would have full discussion on the recommendations before reaching any conclusions.

Many of the commission's *proposals on police powers are* designed to rationalize anomalous laws, and make them uniform throughout England and Wales, but in some cases extensions of powers are recommended.

The police would have wider powers to stop and search people in the street, or vehicles, for stolen goods, or on reasonable suspicion of possessing prohibited articles such as drugs or firearms. But the reasons for the stop and search would have to be noted in the policeman's notebook and the person must be informed of them.

A new power would be given to the police to enter premises to look for evidence of serious crime, provided certain strin*gent criteria were met.*

The law on arrest would be extended to allow a policeman to arrest without warrant anyone suspected of any imprisonable offence, but only in specified conditions according to what the commission calls the "necessity principle", which includes stopping an offence being committed.

A policeman who saw an offence being committed would have the power to arrest the apparent culprit if he or she refused to give his or her name and address.

Once in detention, if a suspect has not been charged within six hours, a senior police officer would have to make sure that grounds for detention still existed.

After 24 hours without charge, the police would have to seek permission from a magistrates' court to keep a suspect longer. The suspect would be entitled to see a solicitor.

The magistrates' decision to *allow the police to keep a sus*pect longer would become subject to appeal after the second 24-hour extension. The commission proposes that a detailed code of practice governing police interrogation should replace the Judges' Rules.

The commission does not recommend tape recording all police interviews, but says that, after interrogation, a police officer should record a sum*mary* of the interrogation on tape, and ask the suspect for his comments.

Special rules are proposed for the questioning of juveniles and mentally handicapped people. Juveniles should only be interviewed in the presence of an adult.

Continued on page 3, col 6



Photograph by Bill Warhurst

The Queen at Windsor yesterday for the funeral of Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, with (from left) Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester, Princess Paul of Yugoslavia, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and former Queen Juliana of The Netherlands. Report, page 12.

A potential buyer for 'The Times' emerging

By Michael Horsnell

A potential purchaser of Times Newspapers is expected to emerge by the end of January, it was disclosed last night.

After a meeting with general secretaries of the print unions, Mr Gordon Brunton, chief executive of Thomson British Holdings, said: "In my heart of hearts I believe that *The Times* will continue after March."

Mr Brunton, who said that he expected all titles to be sold as one, added: "The present situation is that a number of interested parties who have received the confidential information have responded and we are now evaluating the various opportunities which are open to us. No bid has yet been accepted. Negotiations are taking place, they are of a sensitive nature, indeed of a delicate nature, and in every case we and they are bound by a very strict confidentiality clause."

He would not reveal the names or number of potential buyers, but added: "My carefully considered view is that before the end of this month I am hopeful that I will be seeking a meeting with you, the general secretaries, to introduce you to a potential purchaser of Times Newspapers who will be acceptable to the national directors, the editor-in-chief, and, I believe, the trade unions and their members, and to the Thomson Organisation".

But Mr Brunton gave a warning that a common condition *laid down by all interested* parties is that new manning and technology agreements with the unions and individual chapels will have to be made.

"Every interested party is adamant on that point and it does not surprise me."

Mr William Keys, chairman of the TUC printing industries committee, welcomed Mr Brunton's announcement and said: "We cannot go on the way we have been in Fleet Street. There is no argument about that. I am not going to prejudice the situation by pressing for the names of potential buyers. I will do all I can to keep these newspapers going."

Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the National Graphical

Continued on page 2, col 4

Test case on bidding at art auction

By Kenneth Gosling
Arts Reporter

Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, has authorized proceedings against Thomas Agnew and Sons Ltd, the leading London art dealers, over the sale of the Algardi bust of Mgr Cerri at Christie's in September, 1979.

Summonses have been served under section 1 of the Auctions (Bidding Agreement) Act, 1927, and are returnable at Bow Street Magistrates' Court next Friday. The Attorney General's office said yesterday that the proceedings would in some ways be a test case intended to help to clarify the present law.

Agnew said: "We have always been of the understanding, and remain so as we have publicly stated several times, that we have not contravened the Act".

The successful bid amounted to £165,000. In December the same year Agnew applied to export the bust to the Metropolitan Museum in New York *at a valuation of £265,000*; the application was not accepted by the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art.

The Attorney General's office said that in authorizing the proceedings *Sir Michael* was aware of feelings of uncertainty as to the precise scope of the Act among many directly affected by it and, on the other hand, of the informed concern expressed about certain aspects of the sale by auction of valuable works of art that formed part *of the national heritage.*

The relevant section of the Act says: "If any dealer agrees to give, or gives, or offers any gift or consideration to any other person as an inducement or reward for abstaining, or for having abstained, from bidding at a sale by auction either generally, or for any particular lot, or if any person agrees to accept, or accepts, or attempts to obtain from any dealer any such gift or consideration as aforesaid, he shall be guilty of an offence under this Act. . ."

Dealers can remain within the law provided that before an auction there has been an agreement in writing, a copy of which is deposited with the auctioneer.

Russian defects from military talks team

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Jan 8

Mr Viktor Nikolayevich Korolyuk, aged 35, the interpreter for *the Soviet delegation at the* Vienna troop reduction negotiations, has defected to West Germany, a Government spokesman confirmed today.

Reports by the Austrian news agency APA and the *Stuttgarter Zeitung* said he had brought with him confidential Soviet *documents about the* east block's future strategy at the mutual and balancer force reduction (MBFR) talks between the Western alliance and the Warsaw Pact powers.

They said he flew from Vienna to Düsseldorf on December 17 and was taken to an undisclosed spot by the West German intelligence service for questioning.

A Government spokesman confirmed that Mr Korolyuk had entered West Germany but declined to give any further details. However official sources described Mr Korolyuk *as "a man who can tell us a* lot".

Russians gone: The Park Hotel in Baden, south of Vienna, stated that the Soviet delegation left there for Moscow on December 20 after the latest *round of talks ended. It was not* expected back until January 20.

The latest round of the 19-nation talks, which have gone on for seven years, ended on December 18. The Warsaw Pact then said that it would not change its position despite Western contentions that it had misrepresented its troop strength.

Disagreements over troop levels, which Nato says the Warsaw pact understates by 150,000 men, have bogged down the talks for years.—Reuter.

Society faces cash loss investigation

By Margaret Stone

The police are investigating alleged irregularities at the Alfreton Building Society in Derbyshire.

Mr John Flanders, chairman of the £5½m building society, said in a letter to the society's 3,800 members yesterday that the board "for some time had been concerned about the possible irregularities in the affairs of the Alfreton society".

The *Chief Registrar of* Friendly Societies and the Building Societies' Association, were made aware of the difficulties last week and an effective rescue operation was mounted.

Pending the outcome of the inquiries, Mr Roy Ward, aged 51, *the society's secretary, has* been suspended.

Some months ago the Alfreton Society had been discussing a possible transfer of engagements with the neighbouring Britannia Building Society. Britannia, with assets of well over £1,000m, is the tenth largest society and well experienced in building society takeovers.

Business was brisker than usual yesterday at the Alfreton's single branch in Alfreton High Street. But, alerted to the possibility of a run on the society by *worried* members, the Britannia, with the required approval from the Chief Registrar, had ferried employees and money to the town.

The society's difficulties come less than three years after the big defalcation at the Grays Building Society in Essex. That led to calls for an official society rescue fund and for more stringent requirements for building society auditors.

One line of inquiry being pursued by the police is the possibility that cheques were drawn against members' accounts. Until a detailed check has been made, however, it will not be possible to determine the full extent of the losses.

Financial Editor, page 15

British beef for Poland at 34p per lb

By Hugh Clayton
Agriculture Correspondent

British beef is to be sold to Poland at a bargain price of 34p a pound. The latest official *survey of British shop prices* states that "cheap" stewing beef costs on average £1.08 a pound.

The price for Poland has been fixed by the European Commission in Brussels for 1,000 tonnes of meat from the British share of the EEC beef "mountain". It will form part of a sale of 15,000 tonnes to be included in an EEC package of cheap food to help Poland.

The Commission has ordered that the 1,000 tonnes from Britain must be sold in one lot at a price of £755,000. If more than one offer is received the winner will be decided by lottery.

Strict conditions have been imposed by the Commission to prevent cheap food earmarked for Poland being diverted to such forbidden destinations as the Soviet Union. For the purposes of the beef sale the usual deposit of about £35 a tonne required by Brussels for the sale of cheap food outside the EEC has been raised to £649 a tonne.

If the meat is sold it will be handled by a trader in Western *Europe who can convince* the Commission that he has a guarantee of purchase from Poland. No offers have yet been received.

Credit talks: Talks about extending credit arrangements to Poland, including the financing of food supplies, will be held by the main Western creditor nations in Paris on January 16 (Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes).

Strike over Saturdays, page 5

Rail strike threat suspended after management plea

Train drivers' leaders voted by six to three to suspend the threat to disrupt services so that a joint approach with British Rail *management could be* made to the Government for more investment in the railways. The strike threat was suspended after an impassioned appeal by Sir Peter Parker, British Rail chairman, not to jeopardize the chance of government aid by taking militant action. He said glittering prizes were to be won Page 2

First Reagan Cabinet

President-elect Ronald Reagan presided over the first full meeting of his future Cabinet in Washington. Its purpose was to review the goals set by the incoming administration and the meeting was later described as "a seminar to understand each other" Page 5

Liquidations record

More companies than ever went out of business in 1980. By the end of the year 6,814 companies had gone into liquidation in England and Wales. But about 143,000 new firms or partnerships were at least provisionally registered, of which 67,000 *were new companies* Page 14

Steel 'survival' backed

Workers at British Steel's Port Talbot plant have accepted the corporation's survival plan. The decision is significant in view of the corporation's ballot of its entire workforce for acceptance of its *strategy of more plant closures*, job losses and a six-month wage freeze Page 13

Alvar Lidell dies

Alvar Lidell, the broadcaster, whose voice was known to millions by the phrase, "Here is the news and this is Alvar Lidell reading it", has died aged 72. He *was a regular broadcaster* for 37 years until he retired in 1969 **Obituary, page 12**

Intensive Tehran talks on American hostages

The Algerian intermediaries in the American hostages issue have been locked in intensive discussions with Iranian officials. It appears that Tehran wants to settle the matter before the Reagan Administration takes office. Mr Warren Christopher, the American Deputy Secretary of State, has arrived in Algiers for *talks with Mr Muhammad Sadik Binyahia,* Algeria's Foreign Minister Page 5

Golden handshakes

Nine former directors of Spillers, the food group, left with "golden handshakes" totalling £1.7m after Spillers was taken over by Dalgety, the international meat group. Mr Michael Hoare, managing director of Coral Leisure the gambling group, is expected to receive about £200,000 on his resignation from the company Page 13

'Hostility' to graduates

Some of Britain's new universities are of a poor standard and an "active embarrassment", according to a government liaison officer for education. He expects there will be increased hostility towards graduates by employers and he warns universities that they must face up to scepticism Page 4

Water action threat

Among several militant decisions by public sector union leaders, the National Union of Public Employees recommended unspecified industrial action by water workers over the employers' refusal to increase their offer of a 7.9 per cent pay rise. The employers were accused of a serious misjudgment Page 2

Cheap fares plea: Sir Freddie Laker has taken delivery of his first airbus 2

Civil Service jobs: MPs attack delay in dispersal to Scotland 3

Madrid: Mosques for Córdoba have caused a dispute between bishop and mayor 4

Classified advertisements: Personal, pages 20, 22; Recruitment opportunities, 19, 20; Car buyers' guide, 20

Namibia conference settles status issue

A formula was devised at the United Nations-sponsored Geneva conference on Namibia to allow the internal parties recognition at the meeting without undermining its bilateral status. This amounted to personal introductions, considered a victory for the parties. The South West Africa People's Organization *countered with a gesture of unity* Page 5

HOME NEWS

Militant decisions by public sector unions augur ill for pay calm

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Public sector pay bargaining took a militant turn yesterday when fresh difficulties for the Government were posed by union leaders of water workers, civil servants, power station workers and hospital manual staff.

The most serious development was a decision by the *National Union of Public Employees to recommend unspecified industrial action by water workers* over the employers' refusal to increase their offer of a 7.9 per cent pay rise. Mr Ronald Keating, NUPE's chief negotiator, accused the National Water Council of "playing a very dangerous game of bluff which could have disastrous consequences".

If the employers thought the men would retreat from their threats of industrial action because there had never been a water strike before, then they were making a "*serious misjudgment*" of rank-and-file attitudes. A strike was "certainly very much on the cards".

Noting that gas workers had been offered a similar pay rise, Mr Keating argued: "It would be incredible if there had not been government coordination between these two responses". *The offer to the gas men has been rejected.*

Unions representing 85,000 power workers submitted a pay claim of "close to 20 per cent" yesterday. They also proposed a three-hour reduction in the 38-hour working week, retirement at 60 and better shift pay.

Mr John Edmonds, national energy officer of the General and Municipal Workers Union and secretary of the union side, said they would expect a substantial offer when negotiations opened in earnest on February 5.

Leaders of 650,000 civil servants yesterday *set in* motion their wage campaign designed to force the Cabinet to shift from its 6 per cent pay policy. The Council of Civil Service Unions agreed to submit a joint claim covering all the Government's white collar employees and decided that any industrial action by *the different* groups should be coordinated.

Disruption of government business in pursuit of higher pay was "fairly inevitable", Mr William Kendall, general secretary of council predicted.

He added that civil servants would respond to the promptings of economic necessity in a pay claim to be drawn up over the next few weeks.

No figures have yet been mentioned officially, but left-wingers in the largest Civil Service union are talking about *15 per cent rises*, with a minimum of £10 a week.

Further pressure on the Government's policy will come from the 250,000 health service ancillary staff, NUPE said. "Unless we are able to get in the health service the 7½ per cent offer which is on the table for local authority employees there will be serious industrial disruption in the hospitals in the next few weeks," Mr Keating said last night.

Laker cheap fares call on taking up first airbus

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

Sir Freddie Laker, chairman of the independent airline, Laker Airways, received delivery of the first of a fleet of 10 European A300 airbuses yesterday and took the opportunity to pass on a message about cheap fares to the Prime Minister.

The Government and the Civil Aviation Authority had said they liked competition in air transport and believed in low fares. But when his airline applied for 630 cheap-fare routes within Europe "they wished us luck instead of licensing us", he said.

"We put our money where our mouth is, spending it on British equipment and on producing more jobs for Britain. We are prepared to halve fares. I would say to the Prime Minister: 'We are ready when you are, darling, because *we have got the equipment*. Any time you want to go'."

The new airbus, with its main airframe parts produced in France, West Germany and Britain, made a symbolic flypast at the Laker Gatwick airport base after a delivery flight from Toulouse, in southwest France, to the cheers of Sir Freddie's staff.



Photograph by Harry Kerr
Sir Freddie Laker greeting the touchdown yesterday of the first European airbus, for service with Laker Airways.

It *enters service tomorrow* on a package holiday flight to Majorca.

Before he boarded the 298-seat airbus Sir Freddie was presented by the aircraft's manufacturers with a mini Metro car, registration number FLY 1, the number once owned by Lord Brabazon, holder of the first British pilot's licence.

It was presented to Sir Freddie on Lord Brabazon's death. The airbus has been named Metro.

The deal for the A300, the first to go on the British register, and two others which Laker Airways will receive this year, is being funded to the extent of £55m by a consortium of 13 banks, headed by the Midland.

Three more A300s are due to be delivered at the beginning of next year, two in 1983 and two in 1984, and Sir Freddie told me he is negotiating further options to purchase.

The Laker airbuses are powered by American General Electric CF6 engines and, according to Sir Freddie, have "all mod cons", including in-flight films and stereo, a facility to pick up any television station, "so that passengers can watch *Match of the Day* or *Coronation Street* if we are delayed by air traffic control.

"I once said that any aeroplane designed by a committee is bound to wind up as a camel, but looking at my new airbus I know I was wrong."

Councils to face grant cut of more than 8%

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The government grant to local authorities in England for the year 1981-82 has been cut by more than 8 per cent, according to figures released yesterday by the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

The association says that more than half of the reduction, £440m, is borne by London and the other metropolitan authorities.

When Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced the rate support grant in December, he said that under the new arrangements London would lose £100m in grant, but there would be no effect on the other metropolitan areas overall.

Statistics produced by the association indicate that the reduction in expenditure is greater than the target set by the Government, being 3.1 per cent overall on the target figures for 1980-81.

Within the 3.1 per cent figure, England bears cuts of 3.2 per cent and Wales 1.9 per cent, but the association says that other comparisons give a much worse picture for English local authorities.

Compared with local authorities' original plans for 1980-81, the targets for 1981-82 show a reduction of 8.2 per cent, it says. Even worse, based on longer-term targets, the spending expectations of local authorities have been cut by 16 per cent in the past 22 months.

Newly established communication system expected to save vital minutes for Army in Ulster

Security package improves Gardai and RUC cooperation

From Christopher Thomas
Belfast

The Army in Northern Ireland is allowed to make direct emergency communications with police in the Irish Republic as part of a package of measures *for improved cross-border security*.

The system became fully operational last year under the influence of Mr Charles Haughey, Prime Minister of the Irish Republic. It had, however, been agreed in principle late in 1979 at Downing Street between Mr Jack Lynch, the former prime minister, and Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Since that meeting, which resulted from the Mountbatten and Warren Point atrocities in August, 1979, cross-border *cooperation between the Gardai* and the Royal Ulster Constabulary has much improved.

Before that, useful emergency communications barely existed. The system was inefficient and *slow, and generally not* capable of responding effectively in a crisis.

The Army is authorized to make direct communications with the Gardai only in an emergency when there is not time to get in touch with the RUC. But the arrangement has made a worthwhile contribution to effectiveness in emergency border operations.

Clearly, the main task of cross-border cooperation is between the two police forces, and in anything other than *exceptional circumstances* the Army is expected to leave matters in the hands of the RUC.

But there are occasions, *mainly in cases of hot pursuit*, when the Army can save vital minutes by using a newly established radio system for direct contact with the Gardai south of the border.

British Army helicopters, which are allowed to cross the border for about five kilometres in hot pursuit, have been equipped to establish immediate radio contact with the Gardai until the southern security forces are in a position to take over the chase.

The improved cooperation between the police north and south of the border has been shown in the past year by a series of spectacular arms finds, mainly in the republic. The British Army, despite a reduction in force levels of 1,500 to 11,300 in the past year, has been able to deploy significantly larger numbers of troops in border areas.

Intensive activity by both the police and Army has greatly reduced tension in the border areas of co Fermanagh, where a series of hit-and-run murders of members of the security forces who live in the area had last year raised tension among the local Protestant population to a dangerous level.

It remains the Army's intention, security permitting, to reduce troop levels to six resident battalions, equivalent to about 6,000 men.

The aim is to end all the short tours of four months by the "*roulement*" *battalions*, of which there are four in the province. The "roulement" tours are regarded as severely disruptive because they effectively remove the soldier from all other duties for about nine months as a result of additional training and leave entitlement.

No target dates, however, have been *firmly established* for troop reductions. The indications are that the Provisional IRA, whose terrorist activities have drawn to a virtual close in the past few months, is reexamining its direction and is subject to considerable internal division.

Nobody seriously expects a ceasefire, but a lot of soul-searching about future *direction appears to be going on.*

For the time being the security situation has improved to the extent that in urban areas visiting battalions of the Army now regularly patrol only Belfast, Londonderry and Dungannon, in co Tyrone. Patrols in other built-up parts of the province are invariably by members of the locally recruited Ulster Defence Regiment.

It is unofficially estimated that the hard core strength of the Provisional IRA, defined as those who carry out shootings *and bombings*, numbers between 250 and 300. Similar estimates about three years ago put the figure at about 350.

Liberal resigns after accepting 34% rents rise

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

Councillor Richard Kemp, the Liberal chairman of Liverpool City Council's housing committee, yesterday steered through a 34 per cent rent rise for 50,000 tenants, then resigned the chairmanship. He blamed Conservative national policy for cutting the housing subsidy by £11.8m.

His resignation was a personal protest against the restrictions and moratorium imposed by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The Liberals have minority control, and the proposal was eventually carried by 14 votes to 9.

Seamen on strike early in Scotland

By Michael Baily
Shipping Correspondent

Seamen on oil rig supply ships at Aberdeen and other ports yesterday anticipated Monday's planned strike by refusing to sail.

In London talks between the National Union of Seamen and the shipowners through the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas), failed to resolve the pay dispute *and the prospect of* a partial strike of British shipping on Monday drew closer. The unions want an increase of 16 per cent or arbitration: the owners have offered 10½ per cent.

The union will instruct members on deep-sea ships not to sail from British ports from Monday, members on ferry and short-sea ships to intensify *selective industrial action*, and members on ships of 14 unnamed companies considered by the union to be "hawks" in the dispute to stop work.

A union official said: "Unless the owners agree to arbitration or come up with an improved offer we begin a campaign of intensified industrial action next Monday".

Rail union delays disruption

By Our Labour Editor

Train drivers' leaders last night suspended their threatened disruption of services so that a joint approach with British Rail management for more state cash aid could be made.

The national executive of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen voted by six to three against putting into action a decision taken before Christmas "to commence various forms of industrial action" this month in support of their demand for more investment.

The decision came after an impassioned appeal from Sir Peter Parker, chairman of British Rail, not to jeopardize the chance of gaining Cabinet backing.

Sir Peter said afterwards that there were "glittering prizes to be won" if the footplate men agreed to participate in a joint approach to the government.

British Rail and the three rail unions will submit to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport, an urgent plea for talks on operating subsidies and investment.

Labour sets out choices on policy for Northern Ireland

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

With a view to making a new declaration of Labour Party policy on Northern Ireland, the national executive yesterday circulated to constituency parties and affiliated organizations a consultative paper setting out some of the important questions.

It is the work of a study group, chaired by Mr Alexander Kitson, chairman of the party, who is deputy general secretary of the transport workers' union. Representing *the Parliamentary Labour Party* were two former Secretaries of State for Northern Ireland, Mr Merlyn Rees and Mr Roy Mason.

The group points out that unity between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland is the objective of all the main political parties in the republic and of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Northern Ireland, but it was not supported by the majority of the Protestant community in Northern Ireland. That community had, "by legitimate and illegitimate means", resisted any attempts to bring it about.

Discussing other possibilities, the paper states: "Britain could, for example, declare that she favoured unification; and she could then try to persuade the majority in Northern Ireland that this course would be in their best interests.

"Alternatively, the British government could go further and declare an intention to withdraw, with or without a date for the withdrawal being given."

Should the majority remain opposed to unification, as on the evidence seemed possible, the only other course the party could take, if it was determined to achieve unification, would be withdraw from Northern Ireland without seeking the consent of the Northern Ireland people.

In those circumstances "the party would have to make it *clear that it does not believe* the decision should be left to the Northern Ireland people alone: and that it would seek parliamentary approval for the expulsion of Northern Ireland from the United Kingdom".

The group also discusses shared responsibility. "Here the Republic of Ireland would become the guarantor of the rights of the Catholic minority and would be given the power to veto any legislation it regarded as unfavourable to that minority.

"There might also be a Council of Ireland on which both the republic and the government of Northern Ireland or the United Kingdom were represented to consider legislation affecting the relationship between the two parts of Ireland.

"This would be the first step towards some kind of agreed unity. If unification were achieved, the United Kingdom government could become the guarantor of the rights of what would be the Protestant minority."

Some had argued that British withdrawal without the consent of the majority could lead to a declaration of independence. A proposal for negotiated independence had, in fact, been put forward by the new Ulster Political Research Group.

"Given the size of the existing subvention to Northern Ireland from the United Kingdom, which, net of tax, amounted to over £1,000m a year, an independent Northern Ireland would clearly need transitional funding arrangements".

On those and other questions the national executive asks for the views of local parties and unions; their object is to put before the party conference in the autumn a statement of the proposals which would be adopted by a future Labour government to tackle the issue.

A bitter attack on the Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, was made by Mr Enoch Powell, Official Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, in a speech in Belfast last night. He emphasized that his party was the only one in Northern Ireland *devoted to preserving and* strengthening the union.

It was an understatement to say that Mr Paisley's demand for a referendum was designed to bring about an independent Northern Ireland and was the most dangerous assault on the union since the Sunningdale conference in 1973.

12 face court martial

Twelve members of the Royal Irish Rangers are to appear before a court martial at Tidworth, on Salisbury Plain next week charged with offences arising from an incident involving soldiers and police at Tidworth last June.

'Handless body' trial

The jury in the case of 3 people charged in connexion with a handless body found in a flooded quarry is expected to be sworn in at Lancaster Castle on Tuesday.

St Etheldreda find

A *thirteenth-century* wall painting of St Etheldreda, patron saint of Ely cathedral, has been discovered in the parish church at Willingham, Cambridgeshire.

Heavy staff cuts likely for Property Services Agency

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The staff of the Government's Property Services Agency, which is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of thousands of government buildings and installations, may be cut by a quarter or more by 1984.

The agency accounts for nearly three quarters of the Department of the Environment's total payroll of just under 50,000. About half of those are engineering, construction and maintenance workers in what is broadly the Government's equivalent of the direct labour organizations administered by local authorities.

The department yesterday was unable to confirm a report in this week's issue of *Building Design* magazine, which states that plans have been submitted to Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, for a reduction of 10,000 jobs within the agency.

But officials indicated that the agency was likely to suffer much higher staff cuts than the Civil Service as a whole, for which the Government's target is a 10 per cent reduction in manpower.

That would accord with Conservative party philosophy, which is generally opposed to direct labour employment by both central and local government. It would prefer as much design and building work as possible to be contracted to the private sector.

First meeting of reshuffled Cabinet

By Our Political Reporter

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, held the first meeting of her reconstructed Cabinet yesterday to review government policy before Parliament resumes on Monday after the Christmas recess.

The first attack by the Opposition will be launched on Thursday, when Mr Peter Shore, opposition spokesman on the Treasury, will lead a debate on the "mismanagement" of the economy. Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, is expected to reply.

Mr John Nott, the new Secretary of State for Defence, was unable to attend the Cabinet meeting because his first engagement took him to Indonesia. Other absentees were Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, who is in Morocco, and Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, who is in *Madrid* for talks with the Spanish government.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Minister of State, represented the Foreign Office.



NGA secretary is optimistic on future of 'The Times'

Continued from page 1

Association, said: "There is a recognition on everyone's part that there is a new atmosphere in Fleet Street not just because of what is happening at Times Newspapers or because of the closure of the London *Evening News*. Our members recognize *what is happening* and therefore there is a better chance of being able to deliver agreements which are signed. There is reason for a degree of optimism."

Mr Brunton said that once a potential purchaser has emerged he will enter into immediate negotiations with the unions to negotiate acceptable arrangements.

"In the event that agreement cannot be reached with a purchaser interested in the whole company, then the negotiations will be terminated and Thomsons will then set out to achieve a second objective, which is to sell individually the constituent parts of the company to individual buyers, and will be seeking their own individual negotiations with you, the general secretaries."

He hoped that if that happened agreements would be reached before the closure dates set by Lord Thomson of Fleet for all titles in March. If *there is no agreement* all publication will cease and the titles and assets will be sold to interested parties, but not as a going concern.

He added: "All interested parties are adamant that in the light of Thomson experience they need to be satisfied both at general secretary level and chapel level that any agreements that are made will be honoured."

The general secretaries were thanked by Mr Brunton for the continuous and good production of the newspapers since the *closure announcement*, "the like of which we have never seen on a consistent basis in the company's history".

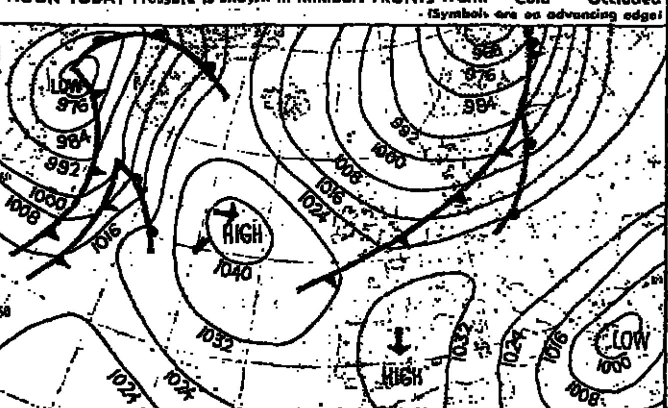
Benn neighbour loses plea

A smallholder who said the gardener of Mr Wedgwood Benn, Labour MP for Bristol, South East, *harassed her family* was refused leave yesterday to appeal against a judge's refusal to punish him.

Mrs Elizabeth Hibbert, aged 56, of Stansgate Abbey Farm, Southminster, near Maldon, Essex was granted an injunction in October to restrain Mr Benn, his mother, Lady Stansgate, his brother, Mr David Benn, and their servants or agents from entering her land.

Five weeks ago she complained that Mr Jack Roe, the Benn family's gardener and handyman, had continued to trespass and to interfere with her livestock.

Weather forecast and recordings



NOON TODAY

Today

Sun rises: 8.4 am. Sun sets: 4.12 pm
Moon rises: 9.53 am. Moon sets: 8.2 pm
First quarter: January 13.
Lighting up: 4.42 pm to 7.33 am.
High water: London Bridge, 3.35 am, 7.2m (23.6ft); 4.1 pm, 7.1m (23.2ft). Avonmouth, 9.6 am, 13.2m; 9.27 pm, 13.0m. Dover, 12.32 am, 6.7m; 12.48 pm, 6.5m. Hull, 8.11 am, 7.2m; 8.20 pm, 7.5m. Liverpool, 12.53 am, 9.0m; 1.10 pm, 9.4m. 1ft=0.3048m 1m=3.2808ft

A cold front will clear S Britain, *leaving all areas in a NW airstream.*

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, SW, central S England, Midlands, Channel Islands, S Wales: Rather cloudy, *rain or drizzle in places,* becoming dry with bright or clear intervals; wind W to NW, moderate or fresh; max temp 9°C (48°F), becoming colder.

East Anglia: Cloudy with rain or drizzle, brighter later with scattered, mainly light showers; wind W to NW, fresh; max temp 8°C (46°F), becoming colder.

E, central N, E England: Rain or drizzle in places at first, becoming mostly dry, with sunny intervals; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 5°C (41°F).

N Wales, NW England: Rain in places at first, becoming brighter with showers; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 6°C (43°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Scattered showers and sunny intervals, becoming mostly dry; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Borders, Edinburgh and Dundee: Sunny intervals, isolated showers dying out; wind W to NW, fresh or strong; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Aberdeen, central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland: Sunny intervals and showers, heavy in places, *becoming wintry, especially* over high ground; wind NW, strong, occasionally gale; max temp 4°-6°C (39°-43°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Cold with wintry showers in N and E at first, becoming milder, with cloud and rain spreading to all parts from NW.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind SW, veering W, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. St George's Channel: Wind W, fresh or strong; sea moderate or rough. Irish Sea: Wind W, strong, occasionally gale force; sea rough or very rough.

Yesterday

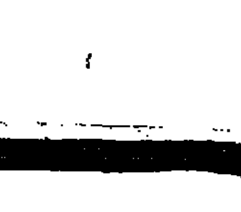
London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 10°C (50°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 3°C (37°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 89 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 6 pm, a trace. Sun, 24 hr to 6 pm, nil. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm 1,033.3 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars=29.53 in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	f	16	61	Copenhgn	sn	-2	28	London	c	9	48	Paris	c	3	37
Algiers	c	10	50	Edinburgh	c	10	50	Luxembrg	c	-2	28	Oslo	c	-5	23
Amsterdm	d	2	36	Florence	c	1	34	Madrid	s	7	45	Paris	c	3	37
Athens	c	6	43	Funchal	c	17	63	Majorca	c	10	50	Rome	s	2	[illegible]
Barcelona	s	10	50	Geneva	s	-2	28	Malaga	s	15	59	S Frncisco	c	8	46
Beirut	s	18	64	Gibraltar	f	15	59	Malta	r	5	41	Toronto	s	-12	10
Belfast	c	9	48	Guernsey	c	9	48	Miami	s	21	70	Vancouver	c	3	37
Berlin	c	-7	19	Helsinki	sn	-3	27	Montreal	s	-19	-2	Stockhlm	sn	-5	23
Birmnghm	c	9	48	Innsbruck	f	-4	25	Munich	sn	-8	18	Venice	s	2	36
Bristol	c	9	48	Jersey	c	9	48	Naples	f	1	34	Vienna	s	-5	23
Brussels	sn	2	36	L Palmas	f	20	68	New York	f	-8	18	Warsaw	sn	-8	18
Chicago	s	-7	19	Lisbon	s	11	52	Nice	s	8	46	Washington	f	-4	25
Cologne	c	0	32	Locarno	s	-3	27	Oslo	c	-6	23	Zurich	s	-7	19

Overseas selling prices
Australia $2; Austria Sch 20; Bahrain BD 0.650; Belgium B frs 35; Canaries Pes 100; Cyprus 400 mils; Denmark Dkr 5.50; Dubai Dir 7.00; Finland Mk 5; France Frs 4.50; Germany Dm 3.00; Greece Dr 50; Holland Gl 2.50; Iran IR 133; Iraq ID 0.300; Irish Republic 20p; Italy L 1100; Jordan LD 0.325; Kuwait KD 0.450; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 50; Malta 20c; Morocco Dir 5.00; Norway Kr 6.00; Oman OR 0.700; Pakistan Rps 10; Portugal Esc 50; Qatar QR 7.50; Saudi Arabia SR 3.25; Singapore $4.50; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Skr 5.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria LS 3.50; Tunisia Din 4.00; US and Canada $1.50; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 40.

All subscription rates on request.



CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

Balancing police powers and rights of suspects

The terms of reference of the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure were: *To examine, having regard both to the interests of the community in bringing offenders to justice and to the rights and liberties of persons suspected or accused of crime, and taking into account also the need for the efficient and economical use of resources, whether changes are needed in England and Wales in*

i. The powers and duties of the police in respect of the investigation of criminal offences and the rights and duties of suspect and accused persons, including the means by which these are secured;

ii. The process of and responsibility for the prosecution of criminal offences; and

iii. Such other features of criminal procedure and evidence as relate to the above;

and to make recommendations.

The commission describes its task as trying to achieve a balance between competing rights and objectives.

On the one hand there are those who see the fight to bring criminals to justice as being of paramount necessity in today's society. They tend to see the police as struggling against increasing crime, shackled by laws and procedures which, during their investigations, their questioning of suspects, and finally at the trial, favour the criminal.

On the other side are those who believe that the cards are in practice stacked against suspects and defendants, that the individual has insufficient legal protection against police power, and that the safeguards against abuse and oppression are inadequate.

In its review of investigation and prosecution, the commission applies throughout three standards for judging both the existing system and its own recommendations. Are the arrangements, actual or proposed, fair and clear? Are they open, that is, not secret, and is there accountability? Are they workable and efficient?

Powers outside the police station

Searching people:

The existing powers of the police to stop and search people in public places have developed haphazardly and often anomalously over more than a century.

The commission proposes that a single uniform power to stop and search should be created, applying to the whole of England and Wales, which would replace the hotch-potch of laws currently in force.

A police officer should have the power to stop, and if need be search, any person in a public place whom he on reasonable grounds suspects of conveying stolen goods, or of being in possession of anything whose possession in a public place is of itself a criminal offence.

Examples would include dangerous drugs, firearms, housebreaking implements and offensive weapons.

To protect members of the public from random, arbitrary and discriminatory searches, the commission proposes that a person stopped should be given reasons by the police officer, and that those reasons should be recorded in the officer's notebook at the time.

A copy of that record should be made available, within a reasonable period, on request by the person who has been searched, and it would be produced if the legality of the police action was subsequently challenged in court, or formed the basis of a complaint. But an unlawful search should not render evidence of what was found inadmissible at a subsequent trial.

If there is to be a power to stop and search people in the street who are suspected of conveying stolen goods or possessing prohibited articles, it is logical that a similar power should exist to stop and search vehicles for the same purposes, and the commission recommends it.

However, to enable the driver to know that he should stop, the power should only be exercised by a police constable in uniform.

Stop and search of vehicles is used at present to cover some circumstances where there is no suspicion about an individual driver, but some serious incident has happened in a particular area and a check of all cars in, or leaving, the vicinity may be helpful to inquiries.

The commission, with one exception, proposes that an assistant chief constable should be empowered to authorize in writing the setting up of road checks for a limited and specified period in two circumstances:

When a person whose arrest is being sought in connexion with a very serious offence is believed on reasonable grounds to be in a particular area; or

When there is good reason to suppose that a very serious offence may be committed in the area at a particular time.

Searching premises

The powers of the police to enter and search premises, like those for stopping and searching, do not form a coherent system.

The commission accepts that the common law power to enter and search without a warrant is essential to deal with particular situations: to arrest someone in respect of whom there is a warrant, to save life and limb, dealing with or preventing a breach of the peace, and when in hot pursuit of a person who has escaped arrest.

But these powers should be made statutory, as should the power to search a person or his premises on arrest; this should be confined to search where it is reasonably suspected that items connected with the offence for which he has been arrested will be found.

The existing powers of the police to enter, with a warrant, and search premises for items which it is an offence knowingly to possess (such as drugs, stolen goods, firearms, explosives) are justified and should be retained, the commission believes, provided that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that the items are on those premises.

Specific warrants for search and entry should not be used to legitimize general searches. But the commission considers that the police should be entitled to seize any *prohibited goods* or evidence of a very serious offence which they find incidentally in the course of a lawful search for something else.

The commission thinks that there would be rare circumstances when a compulsory power should be available as a last resort, to enable the police to get access to evidence in respect of very serious offences.

The following conditions would have to be met before an order for the production of evidence would be granted:

Other methods of investigation had been tried and failed;

The nature of the items sought was specified with some precision;

There were reasonable grounds for believing that the items would be found on the premises; and

The evidence would be of substantial, not merely incidental, value.

As an added safeguard, only a circuit judge would normally be able to grant such an order.

The commission sees telephone tapping, electronic eavesdropping and other means of surreptitious surveillance as being an invasion of *privacy akin to a search of premises.*

It recommends that the use of surveillance devices by the police should be regulated by statute. Each occasion for the use of a device should require the specific authority of a magistrates' warrant.

The court would have to be satisfied that other methods of investigating the crime—which would have to be a very serious one—have been tried and proved ineffective, and that the evidence gained by the surveillance would be conclusive, for instance by nailing down the identity of the criminal.

The interests of the person subject to surveillance should be represented, perhaps by the Official Solicitor.

Arrest

The most commonly used provision for arrest is section 2 of the Criminal Law Act, 1967, which gives a police officer the power to arrest, without warrant, someone he reasonably suspects of committing (or having committed, or being about to commit) what is called an "arrestable offence", defined as an offence carrying a possible penalty of five years' imprisonment or more.

The commission sees as one of the most important of its aims the restriction of circumstances in which the police exercise the power to deprive a person of his liberty to those in which it is genuinely necessary to enable them to execute their duty, to prevent the commission of offences, to investigate crime, and to bring suspected offenders before the courts.

Cornerstone of the 'necessity principle'

In order to give effect to that aim, which lies, as its cornerstone, the "necessity principle", the commission lists five criteria, one of which would have to be satisfied before an arrested person could be detained:

Refusal by the person arrested to identify himself so that a summons could be served on him;

The need to prevent the continuation or repetition of the offence in question;

The need to protect the arrested person himself or other persons or property;

The need to secure or preserve evidence of the offence, or to obtain such evidence from the suspect by questioning him; or

The likelihood of the person failing to appear in court to answer any charge made against him.

If none of the criteria applied, the suspect would have to be released.

The commission feels that the definition of "arrestable offences" needs to be reviewed. The definition incorporates a number of trivial offences—like minor theft—yet leaves out some serious ones, such as indecent assault on a child of 13.

Some commissioners favour leaving the law as it is, and continuing to apply the five-year criterion, on the grounds that any other definition would equally be subject to anomalies and inconsistencies.

They believe, too, that any definition which would have the effect of extending police powers would give a strong incentive to use arrest more extensively at a time when the trend should be in the opposite direction.

The great majority does not believe that widening the definition of arrestable offence would in practice result in an increase in the total number of arrests, but on the contrary, that applying the "necessity principle" would ensure that arrest powers would be less frequently used.

They propose that an arrestable offence for the purposes of arrest without warrant should be defined as an offence which is punishable with any term of imprisonment.

In certain circumstances, following a grave incident, the police might be justified in briefly detaining, without arresting, people who were not necessarily suspected of any offence. Example could include a kidnapping or hostage-taking in the vicinity, a dangerous escaped criminal at large, a bomb or an unexplained explosion, or, as has in fact happened, a murder on a crowded train.

All but two commissioners propose that the police should be given power temporarily to detain people in such circumstances, since unless such actions by the police are regulated there is inadequate protection for the public.

Powers at the police station

Detention:

Following arrest, and assuming one of the criteria justifying detention has been met, for how long should the police have the power to detain the suspect *without* charging him? The existing law provides that a person taken into custody for a serious offence should be brought before a magistrates' court "as soon as practicable", and, for any other offence, within 24 hours.

Surveys have indicated that approximately three-quarters of suspects are released or charged within six hours, and 95 per cent within 24 hours.

The commission proposes a two-tier approach. Time would start to run from when the officer who has taken charge of the suspect at the station satisfies himself that detention is justified according to the "necessity principle".

After six hours in police detention, if the suspect has not yet been charged, an officer not connected with the investigation and, if possible, of the rank of inspector, should be required to look into the case to satisfy himself that grounds for detaining the suspect still exist, to record those grounds and inform the suspect of them.

After 24 hours from detention (18 hours from the review) a suspect should be either released or charged.



Professor Sir Cyril Philips, chairman of the commission.

'The vagueness of the Judges' Rules needs to be replaced with a set of instructions which provide strengthened safeguards to the suspect and clear, workable guidelines for the police'

One exception should be made. Where a particularly serious crime *is being investigated, there might* be circumstances which would delay a charge being made.

In such *cases*, the *police* should be required to bring the suspect before a magistrates' court, sitting in private, to ask for an extension, giving reasons. The magistrates could refuse the request or fix a further period of up to 24 hours within which the suspect would have to be charged or brought before them again.

The power to take fingerprints compulsorily should be retained, the commission believes, but there should be added safeguards. The need to take fingerprints in any particular instance should be specifically justified.

The criteria should be that there are reasonable grounds to doubt the suspect's identity, or that fingerprinting him would go towards confirming or disproving his involvement in the crime being investigated.

If the person fingerprinted is either not proceeded against, or is not convicted, the fingerprints should be destroyed.

All the powers of arrest, the criteria justifying detention, and the conditions of detention proposed by the commission should be set out in a single statute.

Failure by the police to conform to that law could render them liable to disciplinary proceedings, or give rise to actions against them for wrongful arrest and wrongful imprisonment.

But all but one of the commission think that evidence obtained during the course of an unlawful detention should not be inadmissible at a subsequent trial.

Police questioning

Questioning by the police and tape recording:

The commission emphasizes the importance of ensuring that statements made to the police are *accurately recorded.*

Tapes to monitor police interviews

Introducing tape recording of police interrogation would provide not only an accurate record of all that was said, but would be a monitor on the way the police conducted the interview.

Research into costs, however has estimated that it would cost £6.5m annually to record and transcribe whole interviews in a police station with people suspected of the more serious offences. Most of that sum would be spent on making transcripts for use in courts.

It would therefore not be workable at this stage to tape record entire interviews. Something less ambitious should be tried first.

The commission proposes that it should become general practice for an interview to be concluded (if there is no written statement by the suspect) with the police officer summarizing orally the main points made, and at the same time recording them in writing; this summary should include anything said outside the police station.

The summary, or, if there is one a written statement should for the more serious cases be recorded on tape, with the consent and knowledge of the suspect.

He should be invited to offer, on tape, comments on how he had been treated and any remarks he might have about the summary. If he refused to comment that, too, should be recorded.

The right of silence

Should a suspect's silence under police interrogation be able to be commented on adversely at his trial by the prosecutor or judge?

A minority of the commission is in favour of changing the law to allow such adverse comment to be made at the trial.

But a large majority of the commission considers that there is an inconsistency of principle in requiring the onus of proof at the trial to be on the prosecution, to be discharged without any assistance from the accused, yet enabling the prosecution to use the accused's silence in the face of police questioning as part of the case against him.

Doing away with the right of silence would amount to requiring a person to answer questions based on possibly unsubstantiated and unspecified allegations, or mere suspicions, before a specific charge has even been formulated.

The majority concludes that the present law on the right of silence should remain.

The Judges' Rules

The commission does not consider that the right to a solicitor, affirmed in the Judges' Rules, should be absolute, but the power the police have to refuse access should be exercised only in exceptional cases.

It should be limited to cases where the person is suspected of a very serious offence, and where there are reasonable grounds for believing that the time taken to arrange for legal *advice to* become available would involve a risk of harm to persons or serious damage to property; or that allowing access to legal advice would result in evidence being interfered with, witnesses threatened or harmed, associates alerted, or the recovery of the proceeds of the crime impeded.

The commission says that the concept of the voluntary nature of a statement made to the police, which the Judges' Rules emphasize, has proved unworkable in practice; and caused difficulties in the courts.

The vagueness of the Judges' Rules needs to be replaced with a set of instructions which provide strengthened safeguards to the suspect and clear and workable guidelines for the police. The commission recommends that such instructions should be in a code of practice which would have legal effect.

Right of access to legal advice

It would deal with the following: the right of access to legal advice, the treatment of juveniles and other special categories, the modes of note-taking, the taking of statements, the use of tape recorders, the giving of cautions, directions on the comfort and refreshment of persons being interviewed, and the length, timing and circumstances of questioning.

The code should also contain an explicit condemnation of the use of violence or threats of violence or other harmful action to the suspect, his family, or anyone else close to him.

There should also be a specific prohibition of torture or inhuman or degrading treatment, following the wording of Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

The commission, with one exception, rejects introducing an "exclusionary rule", that is, that any evidence obtained from an accused during a detention which did not meet the standard laid down would be inadmissible at the trial.

Such a rule would, the commission feels, affect only a tiny proportion of cases and thus not be a sufficient deterrent to the police, or protection for most suspects. It would give rise to an increase in disputes about the admissibility of evidence.

The primary duty to ensure that the rules are obeyed should rest with the police service itself.

The prosecution system

The present arrangements for prosecuting offenders in England and Wales do not amount to a coherent system. They are essentially local in nature, their development has been piecemeal and haphazard, and they differ widely between different areas of the country.

The *commission's* main recommendation is that a statutory local prosecuting service should be set up for all police force areas in England and Wales. The conduct of *prosecution should become the* responsibility of someone who is legally qualified and is not identified with the investigative process.

The commission proposes to separate the investigative from the prosecuting function by creating prosecution departments, each headed by a "Crown prosecutor" with the following functions:

to conduct all criminal cases once the initial decision to proceed has been taken by the police;

to act as legal advisers to the police on matters affecting the prosecution of offences;

to provide advocates to prosecute in magistrates' courts; and

to brief counsel for Crown Court prosecutions.

The police would be left with complete responsibility for investigating offences, and for making the initial decision whether to start criminal proceedings, or to caution people instead of prosecuting them, or to take no action.

Once the decision to prosecute had been taken by the police, the Crown prosecutor would take over responsibility for the case.

One consequence of the commission's *proposals* on dividing responsibility between police and prosecutor is that police officers would no longer put the prosecution case in court. That would be done by members of the Crown prosecutor's department, or, if it could not provide enough staff at times of high demand, by solicitors in private practice or barristers.

Some of the commission consider that the new responsibilities of the Crown prosecutor's department justifies the lifting of the restriction on solicitors or barristers in the department being able to prosecute in the Crown Court.

The majority, however, does not see the need for any change in the existing rules, whereby only barristers can appear in a Crown Court trial.

The commission, with one exception, rejects a national prosecution system, and plumps for a locally based service with some national features.

The Crown prosecutor will be accountable to a local supervisory authority, which will be responsible for the provision and maintenance of an adequate and efficient department, the appointment and dismissal of the Crown prosecutor and his deputy, and the approval of the departmental budget (within nationally laid down guidelines).

London presents a particular difficulty. Its two police forces—the city of London and the Metropolitan Police—are not responsible to police authorities in the same way as provincial forces.

The commission questions whether a separate Crown prosecutor's department would be justified for the City, with the small area served by its force. If not, a single department should be set up to cover both London forces.

The commission regards it as essential that there should be ministerial control over the management of the new prosecution service, but is divided over whether the responsible minister should be the Attorney General or the Home Secretary.

A significant proportion of prosecutions—perhaps as much as one quarter—are brought not by the ordinary police but by various specialized agencies, such as local authorities, the British Transport Police, the Inland Revenue, the Factory Inspectorate, the Department of Health and Social Security, the Television Licence Record Office, and many more.

There is great variation in their criteria for prosecution, their objectives, and the way they conduct their prosecutions. It would not, therefore, be easy to integrate all such non-police agencies into the new system, and the commission sees no need to try to force them in.

But if the current normal practice is for the police to initiate or conduct prosecutions on behalf of such agencies, that task should be taken over by the Crown prosecutor's department.

English law gives the right to private individuals to bring prosecutions in cases where the police have failed to do so, and this is commonly considered *to be a fun*damental right for the citizen, and an important safeguard against official inaction.

In practice, however, that right is subject to a number of limitations.

The commission recommends that a citizen wishing to initiate a private prosecution should first have to apply to the Crown prosecutor who could, if the normal criteria are met, take the case on.

If he refused, and the private citizen still wanted to carry on, he should be entitled to apply for leave to start proceedings to a magistrates' court. If that court granted leave, then the subsequent *private prosecution* should be paid for out of public funds.

Bringing a case to trial

The commission's terms of reference required it also to look into the process whereby cases are actually brought to trial: how the decision to *prosecute* is taken, and the various procedural steps leading up to the trial being ready to start, for example disclosure by the prosecutor and committal for trial.

Under the present practice, when deciding whether or not to launch *criminal* proceedings, the prosecutor has to satisfy himself that there is at least a prima facie case—the existence *of* evidence which, if believed by a jury or magistrates' court, would justify a verdict of guilty. The commission feels that all prosecutors *should in future base their decision* on the existence of a reasonable prospect of conviction, that is, that there is more than a 50 per cent chance of conviction.

The commission suggests that a set of criteria should be drawn up under the auspices of the Director of Public Prosecutions, to give guidance to the police and the prosecution service in the exercise of their discretion on whether to prosecute.

Once the decision to prosecute has been taken, *proceedings* can at present be started in two ways: by issuing a summons or preferring a charge. The Commission sees no logical reason for continuing the dual system, and recommends that there should be a single procedure *for initiating* proceedings called an "accusation".

Extension of existing law

Under the existing law the prosecution at a crown court trial supplies the defence with witness statements and depositions of the evidence the prosecution proposes to call.

The commission believes that that principle should be extended to magistrates' court trials as well.

Where the prosecution has statements of witnesses which it does not intend to call at trial, which might contain information helpful to the defence, the commission feels that the defence ought to be entitled to see such evidence, but would leave the discretion as to *what to disclose with the* prosecution.

The object of committal proceedings before magistrates is to ensure that there is enough evidence to warrant sending the accused for trial to the Crown Court.

The commission feels that formal committal for trial is unnecessary. But, given that there are sometimes substantial delays in a case coming to trial, a defendant ought to have the opportunity of challenging the case against him at a stage earlier than his trial.

A new procedure, the "application for discharge", should be *introduced, applying to trials of* all but minor cases whether in the magistrates' courts or the Crown Court. Under this it would be open to a defendant whose trial is delayed more than eight weeks to submit to a magistrates' court that there is no case to answer.

The commission was under the chairmanship of Professor Sir Cyril Philips, professor of oriental history and former vice-chancellor of London University. The other members were: Professor Michael Banton, Lord Justice Eveleigh, Mr W. A. Forbes, QC, Mr Paul Fox, Mrs Daphne Gask, Miss Dianne Hayter, Mr Jack Jones, Mr Cecil Latham, Mr John Mercer, Mr Walter Merricks, Sir Douglas Osmond, Mr Dick Pamplin, Sir Arthur Petersen, Miss Joan Straker and the Rev Canon Wilfred Wood.

Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure: *Report* (Stationery Office, £7.50. Summary £1.95; background to existing law and procedure, £7.50).

Leading article, page 11

HOME NEWS

MPs attack delay in dispersal of Civil Service jobs to Scotland

From Ronald Faux
Glasgow

The arguments for dispersing 2,050 Civil Service jobs to the West of Scotland were overwhelming and there should be no faltering in the political will to carry out the programme, the all-party Select Committee on Scottish Affairs said yesterday.

The committee had spent three months studying the controversial proposals and criticized the delay in implementing the dispersal of 1,400 Ministry of Defence jobs to Glasgow and a further 650 Overseas Development Administration jobs to East Kilbride.

It had been made clear that a minimum of 2,000 jobs concentrated on the west of Scotland was a sacrosanct target. About half would be filled by existing civil servants and the rest from local recruitment. Only 10 per cent will be taken by civil servants moved from London.

The report conceded that dispersal was not so much about those who left London with their jobs as the greater number who could find work near home.

In the report the Society of Civil and Public Servants, the second largest Civil Service union, representing 106,000 executive members, was quoted as saying that there had been systematic delay and obstruction by Whitehall mandarins "out to protect their Westminster village empires".

They had tended to give prominence to the difficulties in achieving dispersal rather than taking an imaginative and enthusiastic line. Those charges were strongly denied, the report said, but the committee appreciated how such discontent, doubt and cynicism had arisen.

Dispersal plans had been under consideration for eight years and had suffered a steady whittling down to their present levels, which seemed unlikely to be effected before 1986.

The MPs seemed unanimous that there had been too much dragging of Civil Service feet. They recommended that formal machinery should be set up, headed by the Scottish Office, to coordinate the programme.

They also recommended that the relative merits of the St Enoch site in Glasgow city centre and an alternative building at Anderton for the Ministry of Defence should be reappraised, but the overriding priority should be to avoid further delay.

Increase attributed to sales to shop-floor workers

Record rise in health insurance

By Nicholas Timmins

Britain's health insurance associations have seen their biggest growth ever in the past 12 months, with more shop-floor workers taking out health insurance through group schemes.

The British United Provident Association (BUPA), which, with Private Patients Plan, holds 96 per cent of the market, said yesterday it had seen an increase of more than 25 per cent in subscribers, despite the recession, which led to a high rate of lapses.

Mr Derek Damereil, chief executive of BUPA, said that in the 12 months to November BUPA had a net increase of 288,000 subscribers, more than half of them in the past six months, with a total of more than a million for the first time.

Their total of 1,250,000 represents cover for almost three million people when wives and children are included.

Private Patients Plan, which accounts for about 20 per cent of private health insurance, said its year end figures were also expected to show strong growth, with subscribers at record levels, in excess of 300,000.

The figures suggest that 3,500,000 people in Britain are covered by private health insurance, an increase of about *700,000 on 1979.*

Mr Damerell said the rise had come partly from the affiliation of groups such as the 40,000 members of the electricians' union, and the police, 50,000 of whom are now covered. Much of the increase had come, however, from BUPA's approaches to some of Britain's biggest companies, in which employees have taken out group health insurance even where the company has not contributed.

BUPA does not keep separate records on whether members are trade unionists, but Mr Damerell said: "We are sure that a high proportion of them are shop-floor workers. We used to estimate our trade union membership at between 20 and 22 per cent. Now we suspect it is nearer 25 per cent."

The associations have always argued that any significant expansion in health insurance would have to come from skilled and unskilled workers.

Mr Damerell put the increase down partly to adverse publicity that the National Health Service has had, and partly to a shift in social acceptability now that a Labour government is not attacking private practice and the Conservatives are giving it a freer rein.

Private Patients Plan said yesterday that its growth had come in similar ways, but also through individual subscriptions to a scheme under which the patients sees his doctor and a consultant on the NHS, but can then opt for a private operation if the waiting list is long.

One unspoken fear among the private associations is that continued growth at the present rate could outstrip the provision of private beds in some areas, producing the waiting lists that many people subscribe to health insurance to avoid.

'Daily Mail' harassed heart-transplant donor's family, Press Council rules

A complaint that the *Daily Mail* harassed the family of a heart-transplant donor has been upheld by the Press Council. However, the council rejected another complaint that a reporter attempted to obtain information without disclosing she was a journalist.

In adjudication today, the council emphasized that the media should cooperate in arrangements to relieve the cumulative effect of its inquiries on people suffering grief.

Mr George Morris, of Weir Lane, Houghton on the Hill, Leicestershire, complained to the Press Council that his family were harassed despite his express wish not to give an interview about his daughter, Carol, being the donor in a heart transplant operation.

On the day of the operation the *Daily Mail* first telephoned him, then his neighbour, Mr Stephen Turnbull, giving the impression it was a friend.

Next day, Mr Morris said, Miss Sally Brompton, of the *Daily Mail*, waited from 10 am to 6 pm near his house or in the village. In the evening Miss Brompton left a card and a note.

Raising the matter in the Commons, Mr John Farr, Mr Morris's MP, quoted from Mr Morris's letter to the Press Council, and named Miss Brompton.

Next day the newspaper published a statement from Mr David English, its editor, saying Mr Farr's allegations were mistaken, Mr Farr did not make a formal complaint.

Mr C. J. Rees, managing editor of the *Daily Mail*, denied there was harassment and that the reporter who had telephoned, Miss Gill Swain, tried to get information without disclosing that she was a journalist.

At Houghton on the Hill Miss Brompton tried to speak only to Mr Morris, his neighbour and a policeman. A note *through a letterbox was* not harassment; it was Miss Brompton's only point of contact with the Morrises.

In its adjudication, the Press Council said the telephone call by Miss Swain did not constitute harassment.

The events of the next day were a different matter. During the telephone call it was made clear to the *Daily Mail* that Mr Morris did not wish to speak to it; when Miss Brompton visited the house she was told by a policeman that the family did not want to talk to the press.

The complaint that the newspaper harassed the family was upheld. The complaint that a reporter attempted to obtain information without disclosing that she was a journalist was rejected.

Newspapers and radio and television organizations should be prepared to cooperate and, if necessary, initiate arrangements to relieve the pressure on individuals and families in such circumstances, the council said.

Rationalized law on detention urged in report

Continued from page 1

In another part of its report, the commission proposes the setting up of Crown prosecutors' departments in all police areas. The new departments would be responsible for all aspects of prosecution, leaving the police control over the investigation of crime, but taking away their prosecution functions.

Last night, there was criticism and concern on the one hand from both the Bar Council and pressure groups such as the National Council for Civil Liberties (NCCL) and Legal Action Group at the width of the new powers of arrest, and doubts over the sanctions against police for breaching rules protecting suspects' rights.

But on the other hand there was a welcome from the Police Federation, which represents some 110,000 officers. It said the powers would assist young policemen when faced with the difficulty of people refusing to give names and addresses.

The proposal for a Crown prosecutor was again welcomed by lawyers, pressure groups and civil libertarians, but the police expressed doubts. Sir David said the measure would be "enormously expensive" and was unlikely to improve the quality of justice in London.

Introducing the report in London, Sir Cyril Philips, chairman of the commission, said: "The subject matters intensely to every one of us, to you and to me, to every citizen, for it concerns our liberty and our rights; the way a free, civilized society ought to treat people in the area of criminal justice."

"Twin difficulties": Criticism of the balance of the proposals was made by Lord Foot, Liberal spokesman on the law and Home Office affairs (our Parliamentary Staff writes).

He said a difficulty facing the commission was how to reconcile the duty of the police to investigate crime and bring offenders to justice with the rights of the citizen to fair treatment. A second difficulty was how to ensure that the balance was maintained.

Dispute as Midlands legal work goes to City firm

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

Birmingham Law Society, which has protested sharply about a big conveyancing job *being given* to a firm of solicitors in London by West Midlands County Council, was told yesterday that local legal practices were already acting for the council in 466 cases involving millions of pounds.

Mr Francis Betteridge, chairman of the council's legal and property committee, said that a consideration in placing the legal business on a £2m land deal outside the region was the involvement in the deal of two local companies in which West Midlands councillors were senior partners.

The council is selling land at Cranmore, Solihull, for factory units to Hayward Industrial Developments.

Grimley and Son, a Birmingham firm of surveyors and estate agents, which made the offer for the land on Hayward's behalf, has as a senior partner Mr Michael Wilcox. He is chairman of the council's finance committee.

Mr Richard Hayward, son of Mr John Hayward, head of the development company, works for Grimley.

A legal firm in which Mr John Taylor, of Solihull, is a partner, is Hayward's legal adviser in the transaction. Mr Taylor is a member of the council, is its former Conservative leader, and is member of the European Parliament for Midlands, East.

Mr Betteridge said that impartiality had been a consideration, though not a paramount one. "*You have not only to* be clean, but to be seen to be clean."

He said the firm of Freshfields, of Newgate Street, in the City of London, had acted for the council in a complicated land matter last year because of its expertise.

HOME NEWS

'Embarrassingly poor' standards at some of the new universities

By Diana Geddes
Education Correspondent

Some of Britain's universities are of such poor standard as to be an "acute embarrassment" to the nation, the Government's liaison officer for higher and further education said yesterday.

Speaking at the universities conference of the National Union of Students in Coventry, Mr Robert Rhodes James, Conservative MP for Cambridge and a former director of the Institute of Development Studies at Sussex University, said: "There is no question that the actual performance of certain of the new universities has been remarkably and worryingly uneven".

He would lament any move to give central government much greater control over universities, and he would certainly deplore any extension of the "creeping standardization" which had particularly harmed the performance and the attraction of the new universities.

But the universities had to accept that "the easy days are absolutely over. They must also realize that, whether it be the result of arrogance, insensitivity, indifference or other factors, they do not have many friends in the electorate."

If the universities did not face the facts, he expected the inexorable decline of certain universities "for the simple reason that parents and teachers are not going to send the best young people there".

He also expected an increased hostility of employers towards university graduates, which he said was already evident. That would lead to increased opposition by parents about sending their children

"None of this is likely to affect seriously the established and famous universities. But for several others the icy winds of recession and public scepticism are swirling ominously and bleakly—and depressingly few of them seem to have the faintest idea of the existence of these movements, let alone their strength; because they have made the most fatal of errors—they have lost touch with those they are meant to serve".

Mr James sought to defend the traditional university education. The old belief that a university should be a sheltered place where the love of learning for its own sake should be fostered as a precious and enduring quality against the assaults of the philistines and materialists should neither be derided nor even apologized for, he said.

Computers could cut school time, peer says

From John O'Leary
of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*
Carlisle

New technology could save the Government £500m annually by cutting a year off the average time a pupil spent in the education system, Lord Perry of Walton, former Vice-Chancellor of the Open University, said yesterday.

He told the North of England Education Conference in Carlisle that the coming technological revolution would be as significant as the introduction of printing presses. The resulting "communications explosion" would force education into radical and necessary changes.

"There has been over several centuries a steady acceleration in the rate of acquisition of knowledge", Lord Perry said. "It seems to me that education has not successfully adjusted to this change in a gradual pattern; so that we are in a state of disequilibrium where there will have to be a quantum jump in order to restore the balance."

New technology would make it possible for pupils to choose from a vast range of expertly prepared courses, called up by personal computer terminals from a national library. The only constraint to choice would be the breadth of education considered desirable, he said.

Although such a service could be provided at home there were many good reasons for retaining schools. Teachers would assume a more generalist role, as specialized courses would be available centrally.

Experience had shown that remarkable results were produced when children were stimulated by a subject. They did not share the adult's fear of computers, and most could be expected to progress more quickly under an individualized, self-instructional system, he argued.

It might be possible as a result to reduce the average time spent in initial education by a year, which would produce a saving of £500m at today's prices.

Any such change would require political commitment on a scale much greater than that which produced the Open University. Because of educationists' resistance to change and the vast vested interest in retaining the status quo in developed countries, he thought a Third World country was most likely to give a lead.

Only broad justice in decisions on grants

By Our Education Correspondent

Any system of assessing grants for universities must rely heavily on judgment, and can do no more than broad justice, the Government says in its reply to the thirty-fourth report of the Commons Public Accounts Committee.

The committee had suggested that the University Grants Committee (UGC) should give universities more precise guidance on the causes of the variation in grants between one university and another.

The Government replied that the Treasury, the Department of Education and Science and the UGC considered that there were no absolute standards against which provision of grants could be measured.

Turning to the committee's comments on postgraduate awards, the Government said that the Social Science Research Council was seeking a number of developments designed to improve the success rate of PhD students on their grants.

Those developments included giving more emphasis to the quality of student supervision in determining the allocation of awards and encouraging new modes of PhD research training.

The Science Research Council also had plans to improve the success rate of its PhD students by insisting that the writing up of a doctoral thesis should take place within the formal three-year period of support.

Treasury minute on the 15th to 35th reports from the Committee of Public Accounts (Command 8125, Stationery Office; £2.40).

Dissident Labour members could lead a social democratic party, MP claims

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

One of the so-called "dirty dozen" Labour MPs, Mr Thomas Ellis, claimed yesterday that a small group of dissident members from his party could provide the radical leadership for a new social democratic party to save Britain from seemingly endless economic decline.

According to Mr Ellis, the Labour MP for Wrexham, who is in trouble with his constituency supporters, the new party would increase its "considerable potential" if it was able to recruit Mrs Shirley Williams as its leader and use the qualities of Mr Roy Jenkins.

Mr Ellis gained the distrust of his constituency party when he became one of the 12 Labour MPs who sent a letter to *The Times* questioning the alleged leftward swing of the party.

Since then he has told his constituency supporters that he may leave the party, stating that it would be dishonourable of him to pretend he accepted party policy when he was at the "opposite end of the spectrum" in terms of policy.

In an article in *Arcade*, the Welsh current affairs magazine, Mr Ellis states: "The existence of such a new party based on a handful of dissident MPs and contesting, say, 30 or 40 seats at the next election would in my view be of enormous significance for British politics and would result in smashing the existing two-party mould, for better or for worse.

"The greatest threat to the embryonic party would be over-ambition. If it were, for example, to overreach itself by fielding 300 candidates it could not possibly enter into an electoral alliance with the Liberal Party."

He adds: "If however, the catalyst were introduced of the small new social democratic party and its nucleus of respected former ministers in electoral alliance with the Liberal Party, one can think seriously of a group at least forming a blocking third of the House of Commons and even of forming a majority".

Mr Ellis claims that at the heart of the crisis lies the governmental system of British and parliamentary democracy based on the mother of Parliaments "as we complacently refer to our legislature, which is now one of the most unsatisfactory in the Western world".

In the first instance, he says, Parliament has been rendered impotent by a stylized two-party system within which the gladiatorial posturings of opposing spokesmen in a confrontorial House of Commons have produced a parody of objective parliamentary scrutiny.

The government of the day, he claims, urgently dictates policy to a Parliament that serves merely as a rubber stamp to give it effect.

Secondly, he states, the sectional interests served by the two main parties, the trade unions and the employers, mean that the interests of the general public go unrepresented.

He adds that the most important practical adjustment necessary to the system is electoral reform and the introduction of an appropriate form of proportional representation.

Decision soon on repairs to Lords ceiling

By Derek Barnett
Parliamentary Staff

The report by consultants on the condition of the decorative House of Lords ceiling, part of which fell into the Chamber last year, is expected to be ready by the end of this month.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, will then decide when the project to repair and restore the ceiling can go ahead.

The Property Services Agency, which is responsible for maintenance at the Palace of Westminster, said yesterday: "The matter of funding any work will be considered in the light of the report".

On July 21 last an ornamental wooden ceiling boss fell on to an empty opposition bench.

Appeal likely over London private hospital proposal

By Nicholas Timmins

An appeal to Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, to allow University College Hospital, in London, to build a 112-bed private hospital on National Health Service land is possible after a decision by the local area health authority in effect to block the proposal.

The hospital wants to lease a piece of unused health service land adjoining its site to a company to build a private hospital at a cost of £12.6m. In return the company would build eight operating theatres for health service use, freeing the existing private patients wing to allow further development.

The proposal, drawn up by the special trustees of University College Hospital with help from Private Patients Plan, went to Camden and Islington Area Health Authority on Monday, but the authority has blocked the proposal until at least next year.

The authority said yesterday that no decision was taken on two grounds. The first was that the proposal did not form part of the area's strategic plan up to 1984, and that Monday's meeting was the first time the authority had heard of the proposal. The second was that under the reorganization of the health service Camden and Islington Area Health Authority will cease to exist in March, 1982.

More under-fives seeing less of their mothers

By Bernard Withers

Three out of four preschool children are still looked after by their mothers at home, according to a report published today.

But it points out that in five years the proportion of children under five years of age who spend part of their lives out of the care of their mothers has risen from one in six to one in four. A larger number of working mothers with preschool children are employed part time rather than full time.

The report, a discussion document by the Children's Committee, which is an advisory committee to the Secretary of State for Social Services and the Secretary of State for Wales, points out that there is a growing emphasis on the need for the state to provide services only in special family circumstances where the parents cannot cope.

"The converse view that the majority of parents can and do cope leads all too easily to the assumption that they ought to cope and need no form of support at all.

"This polarization of the world into the capable and the vulnerable oversimplifies the real position. Even the most resourceful parents will benefit from, and will often require, personal support and encouragement in living through their child's formative years."

The Needs of the Under-Fives in the Family (Children's Committee, 5-7 Tavistock Place, London, WC1, 65p).

Sealink cuts its fares in ferry price war

By Our Shipping Correspondent

The price war among cross-Channel ferry companies looks set to continue with a new range of fares from British Rail Sealink yesterday which, the company says, undercuts those announced last month by Townsend Thoresen and P & O.

P & O promptly retaliated with matching cuts on some services and the promise of a new brochure with lower prices. Townsend Thoresen also said: "We are not going to be beaten by anybody".

The most attractive Sealink fare (matched by P & O) is £12.50 for a car and driver to the Continent until April. Sealink also offers reduced fares on summer sailings

WEST EUROPE

Italian Communists prepare for taking their share of power

From John Earle
Rome, Jan 8

The Italian Communist Party, with more than 1,700,000 members the biggest in the western world, is discussing how to overhaul its rusty machinery and make itself fit for, one day, becoming the leading party in government.

This claim was staked in late November by Signor Enrico Berlinguer, its secretary, who after the repeated scandals affecting the Christian Democrats and the tardiness of the Government's relief efforts in the southern Italian earthquake, said the Communists should envisage leading a coalition.

The party has covered much ground in recent months. It has publicly condemned any idea of a Soviet attempt to intervene in Poland. It sees its international future in Eurocommunism and in developing links with left-wing forces in Europe, playing in particular an active role in the European Parliament. At home, it regards itself as the spearhead of those who want to halt the deterioration in Italian society.

But the leadership has found the party machinery ill equipped for this task, and the involvement of the rank and file is in danger of diminishing. A meeting of the central committee to discuss how to remedy this was held yesterday and today under the guidance of Signor Giorgio Napolitano, a member of the party secretariat.

The party membership rose by 20 per cent between 1970 and 1976, but Signor Napolitano noted that it had been dwindling in recent years, even though the fall slowed to 7,000 last year, after one of 23,000 in 1978 and 31,000 in 1979. Party membership stood at 1,752,000 at the end of 1980.

He identified two problems in particular: young people and the South. The party's youth organization lost 74,000 members last year. In the south, the party tended to become too involved in local political arrangements and was too distant from economic and social realities.

But Signor Napolitano's main criticisms were aimed at the party machinery.

He said: "The line to be followed is that of a decisive renewal in the style of work and in the method of direction at all levels."

He spoke of confusion and muddle in party structures, and of ritualism and suffocating bureaucracy". Many people were discouraged from taking an active part in party life by "the repetitiveness of meetings, the prolixity and generality—and indeed the inconclusiveness—of discussions, as well as by the abstrusiveness of a jargon which does not at all reflect an effort at cultural analysis".

The central committee's debates should be more agile and incisive, he said.

Taking an example from it, party meetings did not need to conclude with unanimous votes.

More democracy was needed, Signor Napolitano emphasized, care must be taken to steer clear of any "fractionary degeneration" such as afflicts the other Italian parties with their internal groupings.

Visit to terrorists in prison may free Judge d'Urso

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Jan 8

A further step towards the possible liberation of Judge Giovanni D'Urso, kidnapped by the Red Brigades on December 12, will be taken tomorrow when a lawyer, Signora Giovanna Lombardi, visits three alleged *brigatisti* in Trani maximum security prison, Puglia.

She and a colleague, Signor Eduardo di Giovanni, yesterday went to Palmi prison in Calabria where Signor Renato Curcio, one of the founders of the Red Brigades, and other *brigatisti* gave them a statement saying the judge should be freed because, as they put it, he had repented and collaborated with his captors.

Last Sunday the captors of judge D'Urso, who works in the prison department of the Justice Ministry, announced he had been "sentenced" to death. But they said, the sentence might be suspended if their comrades in Trani and Palmi were allowed to express their views on it freely in news media.

The Government has rejected any negotiation with the Red Brigades. The present mediation is, however, being carried out on a different level, by lawyers who have defended extremists in court.

The small left-wing Radical Party, five of whose members of Parliament have visited Trani this week, tonight appealed for the judge's unconditional release. In a statement, the party made it clear that it had not been mediating, saying: "One does not negotiate with infamous blackmailers who hold the trigger ready to shoot on the neck of a person."

The parliamentarians brought back a statement from the inmates who took part in the prison revolt at the end of December, alleging that after its suppression, there had been vicious beating up of people and burning of books.

Computer identity cards raise fears on privacy

From Ian Murray
Paris, Jan 8

Computerized identity cards are now being issued to all French residents. Identity cards are a legal requirement in France for both nationals and resident foreigners, but the issue from the start of this week of the new-style document has raised the question of intrusion into privacy.

The National Commission for Data Processing and Freedom is investigating the format of the card in an attempt to ensure that it cannot be used to carry more than the required information about the holder's name, sex, birthplace and age.

This follows claims that the card is so designed as to make it possible for the information on it to be fed into a computer linked up with other memory banks. This would enable the police or organizations such as banks to find out personal details about an individual without his or her knowledge or consent.

The new card is inoffensive enough to look at and is supposed to have the added virtue that it cannot be forged. The signature and photograph of the holder as well as the stamp of the authorizing police station are all sealed inside the plastic covered card with the use of a laser beam. The colours are subtly coloured in different tones, according to the holder's nationality, against a fine printed background.

Those who claim that the card can be used for more than the simple identification of a person, say that the type of lettering on it can be read by a computer to give much fuller information.

The Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice have both denied that there is any intention of using the cards for anything other than normal identity purposes.

Corsican hunger strikers fail to win release

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 8

Despite a hunger strike lasting nearly two months, six Corsicans have failed to win release from custody pending the start of their trial next week on charges of kidnapping and being members of an armed gang.

The six, who support Corsican autonomy, began their hunger strike in protest at nine others facing similar charges being released pending the hearing. The Court of State Security's review bench today rejected their request for release.

M Alain Peyrefitte, the Minister of Justice, yesterday replied to Abbé Michel Petrolaci-Stephanopoli, a parish priest in Bastia, who had protested against the continued imprisonment of the six. An opponent of their cause, Pierre Bertolini, a former policeman who lost a leg in a terrorist explosion and has been charged with a series of bomb attacks, has been freed pending trial.

M Peyrefitte said the hunger strikers were seeking to blackmail justice and there was no question that their case was comparable to that of the former policeman.

"One cannot parallel the physical state of a person who has been seriously mutilated after an attack in which he is the victim, with the state of health of the six accused who have deliberately deprived themselves of nourishment", the minister said.

Red Cross says Afghanistan efforts failed

Geneva, Jan 8.—The past 12 months of efforts in Afghanistan by the International Red Cross Committee, after Soviet military intervention there, have been a total failure, the committee said here today.

"Despite repeated overtures to all the parties militarily engaged in the conflict, the committee has found it impossible to operate effectively"", it said, describing this as "a serious setback to the humanitarian cause".

Polluted emperor: The statue of Marcus Aurelius, the emperor and Stoic philosopher, was lifted from its horse in Rome yesterday after 17 centuries of grandeur which had been clouded by smog. A few hundred tourists braved a biting east wind to watch a crane do the job and set the statue up on a temporary stand in the square on the Capital Hill. Twentieth century pollution has corroded the bronze alloy of horse and rider which are being taken away for restoration at the San Michele Institute in the district of Trastevere. The group, said by legend to have been made in Constantinople, used to stand in front of St John Lateran but in 1538 was made the centrepiece of Michelangelo's Capital Square.

Firm justice demand challenged

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Jan 8

An appeal to end "over-soft" treatment of young offenders by the French courts has not gone unchallengetd by eminent judges.

It was M Paul-André Sadon, chief public prosecutor of the Paris court of appeal, who demanded greater firmness in the punishment of crime, especially of juvenile delniquency. He said it was time to end "clemency" from which criminals had benefited for the past decade or so under the influence of reformist ideas.

The counterattack came at the solemn reopening of the Paris law courts yesterday. In the presence of the Minister of Justice, Mme Simone Rozes, its president, insisted that "juvenile" delinquency cannot be reduced to a theory, lenient or repressive. If the choice were simply between one and the other, the problem would have been solved long ago."

"At every moment of his life, the judge of the juvenile court is confronted with these youths in a crisis, with these adolescents with whom no one—beginning with the parents—knows what to do; and one ould require of him that by the sole virtue of his presence, he would wipe out all the failures of these kids, that he would rid us once and for all of these young rowdies who bother us and who tomorrow will clutter up our prisons. Reality is quite different. It cannot be cast in the mould of certainties", she insisted.

"How can one speak of leniency when the prisons are overflowing with juvenile offenders?" M Jean-Claude Xuereb, the president of the jupenile court declared in turn. "There is no significant increase in juvenile delinquency. The proportion of minors guilty of an act of violence does not exceed five per thousand."

M Xuereb proclaimed loudly what he thought of prison as a means of bringing young offenders back to the straight and narrow path.

Confident M Barre has no time for his critics

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Jan 8

M Raymond Barre was in an unusually rumbustious and self-confident mood today—even by his own high standards—when he addressed the managers and directors of companies, mostly medium and small, at a one-day symposium organized by the economic bi-monthly journal *L'Expansion*.

The Prime Minister scattered his critics with a vengeance; castigated the press and the media for saying one thing one week and the opposite the next; poured scorn on opinion polls; and expressed complete indifference for what he described as the agitation of the political "microcosm". The President and Parliament had retained their confidence in him. Why then should he be tortured by soul-searching?

The polls which show him to be the most unpopular Prime Minister of the Fifth Republic were "traps for suckers". "If one day Frenchmen want to change their Prime Minister, they will change him. I am a democrat. I shall bow to their collective will or to the majority. This will not make me change my ideas. But to the extent that I have a policy, I shall not change it because there are every day in the papers, on radio or on television, polls which contradict one another.

In the run up to the presidential elections, which he described as the most important event in the nation's affairs, M Barre said that there was "a particular disposition either to compulsory optimism or to systematic denigration, and a powerful incitement either to a mediocre desire to please or to fallacious promises."

His assertion that when he was faced with the problem of choosing between the interests of Frenchmen and those of France, he always chose the interests of France, had a Churchillian ring about it. But he had often been concerned for the interests of Frenchmen, and "all that I have done I did so that they would not have to pay in the future even more than what they had to in the present", he said.

"I have always told the country what I would do and always done what I said I would do. Frenchmen cannot say I have misled them. Between them and me there has always been the best of truth."

A fit of hoarseness did not prevent him from hammering home the truth as he saw it. Those who claimed that his economic policy was not austere enough would be the first to let everything go if they came up against any difficulties.

"I am capable of doing what Mrs Thatcher is doing and inflicting on France a cure of deflation."

Another Berlin politician to resign after scandal

Berlin, Jan 8.—Herr Dietrich Stobbe, the Chief Burgomaster of West Berlin, said tonight a fourth member of his city government would step down in a reshuffle prompted by a financial scandal.

Herr Stobbe told journalists that the fourth resignation would complete changes in the 12-member city government which he expected the West Berlin Parliament to approve next Thursday.

He refused to name the fourth departing member pending a meeting of his Social Democratic Party (SPD) tomorrow, but informed sources said it was likely to be Herr Erich Paetzold, the Health and Environment Senator (minister).

He is regarded in the SPD as a right-winger whose departure would placate party left-wingers upset by today's resignation of their leader, Herr Harry Ristock, Senator of Housing and building.

Córdoba mayor upsets the bishop

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Jan 8

The Communist Mayor of Córdoba is involved in a clash with the local Roman Catholic bishop over turning two public buildings into mosques. In the time of the caliphs, Córdoba was the capital of an Islamic kingdom.

The buildings, one a former nunnery, are to be used by Spanish Muslims for cultural as well as religious purposes with the aid of Arab funds.

Señor Julio Anguita, the mayor, who is a self-confessed atheist indifferent to both religions, has invoked Spain's 1978 constitution which separates church and state after the Bishop of Córdoba, Mgr José Antonio Infantes Florido, publicly expressed his regret at the transfer, calling it a "historic error", in view of Córdoba's Christian past. The city was reconquered from the Moors in 1236 by King Ferdinand III of Castile, who was later canonized.

This is believed to be the first time since the new constitution came into force that the Communists have started a public polemic with a bishop. They have hitherto sought to avoid any confrontation with the Church hierarchy in order not to lose votes.

The bishop, while emphasizing the legality of the mayor's decision, argued that it would have been better to consult the people of Córdoba more fully. In an open letter in the local newspaper, the mayor reminded Mgr Infantes of the help and facilities accorded by the city authorities on church occasions and then asked: "In what public assembly of Catholic laymen's groups has Mgr Infantes been elected bishop?"

The mayor also emphasized Spain's need to maintain good relations with Islamic countries—Saudi Arabia and Iraq are the chief suppliers of the country's petrol—and Córdoba's policy of trying to reestablish cultural links with Islam

Last month Córdoba was visited by Professor al-Kettani, the rector of a Saudi Arabian university and an adviser to King Khalid. He praised the city's renewed interest in its Islamic past and held out the possibility of further financial assistance.

He said that he looked forward to the day when Muslims would worship again in Córdoba's cathedral, which originally was a mosque.

Pollution blamed for thick fog in Madrid

From Our Own Correspondent
Madrid, Jan 8

The people of Madrid awoke this morning to find the atmosphere heavily polluted and visibility obscured. The newspaper *El Pais*, described the smog as one of the "pea-soupers" long forgotten by Londoners.

Under emergency regulations immediately enforced, no central heating is allowed before 11 am and after 9 pm—although most Madrilenos like to go to bed after midnight. To reduce the pollution from car and lorry fumes, fines of £27 to £83 are to be levied immediately for illegal parking.

The fog has come because for six weeks it has not rained in the capital.

Intensive discussions on hostages issue as Iranians try to avoid deal with new US administration

Tehran, Jan 8.—Algerian intermediaries in the American hostage issue held "intensive" discussions with Iranian officials lasting until the early hours of this morning, diplomatic sources said.

No details were disclosed, but other sources have said the Iranians were making efforts to reach an early settlement rather than deal with the incoming Reagan Administration which takes office in 12 days.

The sources said that the latest round of talks between Iran and three Algerian envoys coincided with a sudden trip to Algiers by Mr Warren Christopher, the United States Deputy Secretary of State. The envoys said only that they had no immediate plans to leave Tehran for home.

Any details of their talks could be relayed through the Algerian embassy here as were a list of questions the Iranians submitted two days ago on the latest American proposals for the hostages' release.

The Iranians' apparent reluctance to deal with a Reagan Administration comes after American officials warned Tehran that the negotiations might have to start all over again. Sources said the Iranian negotiators—for once in agreement with their American counterparts — doubt that an immediate breakthrough is likely because of the many technicalities involved.

Secrecy shrouds much of the *detail of the latest exchanges* on the hostages but Iran's concern to find a speedy settlement should mean that its reply to the new American proposals will be ready in the next few days, possibly during Mr Christopher's visit to Algeria where he is having talks with Mr Muhammad Sadik Binyahia, the Foreign Minister.

Diplomats in Tehran regarded the Christopher mission as a positive sign, saying he would hardly travel to Algeria if Iran was still a long way from drawing up its response.

The main problem still appears to be Iran's demand for $24,000m (about £1?,000m) *as a deposit to cover repayment* of Iranian assets blocked in the United States and part of the late Shah's wealth.

Diplomatic sources say the United States has raised its offer to about $8.000m and the gap may be narrowed when American efforts to help Iran locate other funds are taken into account.

Some signs of flexibility in the Iranian position have been detected by diplomats here, including more frequent references to the word "undertaking" instead of the harder edged "guarantee".

But it is believed that, if only for domestic political reasons, the Iranians feel they must achieve a final settlement which at least looks similar to their demands.—Reuter.

Tehran radio today scorned *the "tough" policies of President-elect* Reagan, who could inherit the task of securing the hostages' freedom.

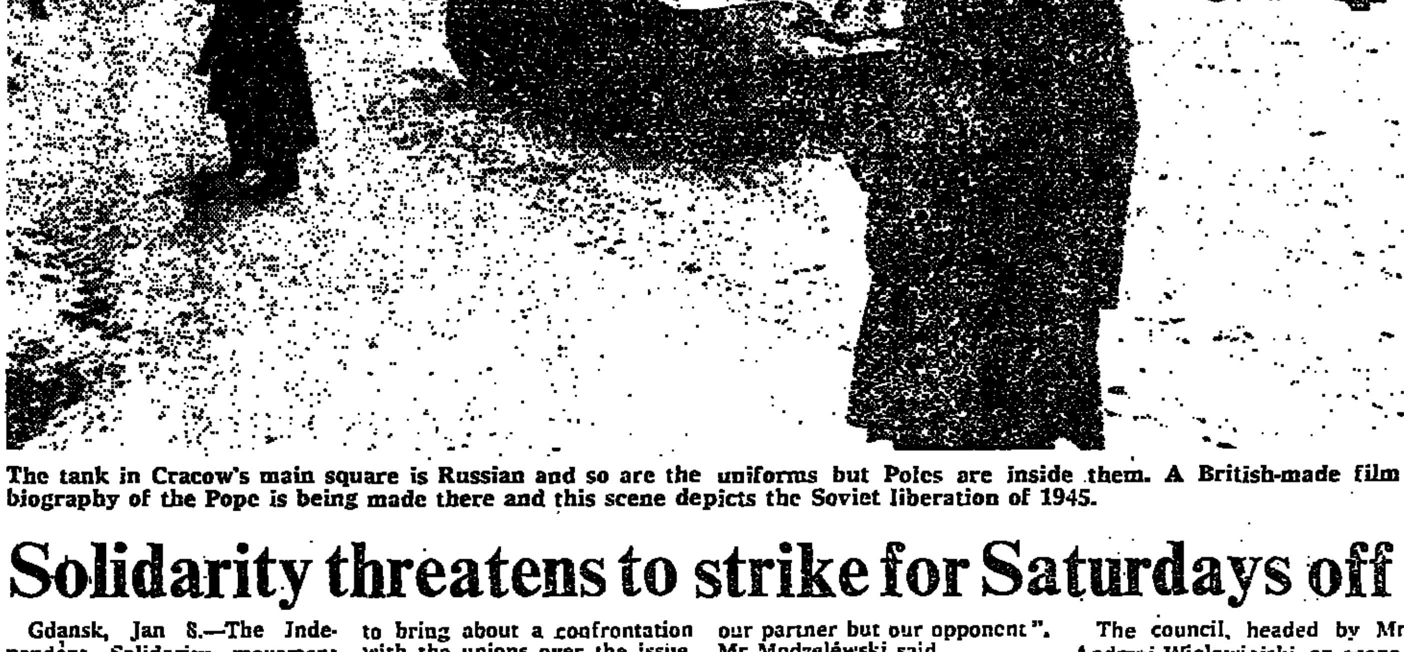
As Iranian *authorities* prepared their response to the latest American proposals, a radio commentary said Mr Reagan's "slogan of militarism" meant he was doomed to meet the same ignominious fate as Presidents Nixon and Carter.

*This would happen, the state-*owned radio said, because American imperialism was in the throes of decline in the face of growing liberation movements. The radio does not necessarily reflect government views.

Iranian politicians and commentators had said they did not care whether Mr Reagan or Mr Carter won last November's election but lately they have become increasingly hostile towards Mr Reagan and reacted violently to his saying that the captors of the hostages were barbarians.

Carter hope: President Carter said today that he believed his Administration's latest offer to Tehran was "fair" to both countries (David Cross writes from Washington).

He said he hoped that the long crisis would be resolved before he left office on January 20 but he could not make any predictions—"I don't want to raise any unwarranted expectations. Every time we've had a favourable response from the Iranians, later on we're *disappointed*."



The tank in Cracow's main square is Russian and so are the uniforms but Poles are inside them. A British-made film biography of the Pope is being made there and this scene depicts the Soviet liberation of 1945.

Mr Reagan holds first full Cabinet meeting

From David Cross
Washington, Jan 8

President-elect Ronald Reagan today held his first meeting with his full Cabinet. He was returning to his home in Los Angeles later today at the end of his third visit to Washington since being elected in November.

The purpose of the meeting which took place at the State Department, was to review the new Administration's goals when it takes office in less than a fortnight's time. Senator Howard Baker, the Republican leader in the Upper House, who also attended part of the session with his counterpart from the House of Representatives, described the encounter as "a seminar to understand each other".

One of the main topics on the agenda was the bleak state of the economy, which Mr Reagan and his economic advisers have been going out of their way to blame on the outgoing Administration. On his way to the meeting, the President-elect told reporters he would tackle the budgetary problems by *making* across-the-board cuts in federal spending. He has promised to balance the budget by 1983.

Mr Reagan's final visit here before his inauguration on January 20 has once again been characterized by much praise and goodwill from those members of the establishment who have crossed his path. He delighted Democratic members of Congress yesterday, for example, by announcing that he had just telephoned Mr Mike Mansfield, the American Ambassador in Tokyo, to ask him to remain in his post.

Mr Mansfield, who was Democratic leader of the Senate for many years, was sent to Tokyo by President Carter and is widely regarded as a highly skilled intermediary between the United States and Japan. Members of the Japanese Government had urged the President-elect to extend Mr Mansfield's tour of duty.

Meanwhile, prospective members of Mr Reagan's Cabinet continue to be interviewed by senators on Capitol Hill as part *of their confirmation proceedings*. Today it was the turn of Mr David Stockman, who has been nominated to the post of Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

So far, about half the members of Mr Reagan's Cabinet have completed their testimony amid lavish praise from senators about their qualifications.

Solidarity threatens to strike for Saturdays off

Gdansk, Jan 8.—The Independent Solidarity movement today said there could be strikes if any worker was dismissed for failure to work this Saturday.

The union's latest resolution declares a five-day, 40-hour week in defiance of government policy that only every other Saturday *should* be free, and is even tougher than the original draft yesterday which left open the possibility of ending the boycott if the Government came up with acceptable alternatives.

Mr Karol Modzelewski a Solidarity spokesman, accused the Government of attempting to bring about a confrontation with the unions over the issue. He said the Ministry of Labour had issued instructions for managers to penalize workers who failed to report for work this weekend, the first designated working Saturday of the year.

"People must know that there may be strikes if any *workers are sacked for not coming* to work on Saturday", he said. The Government said it wanted to cooperate with Solidarity in resolving the issue of free Saturdays and then proceeded to arbitrarily draft its own law, he added.

"Under the circumstances the Government is no longer our partner but our opponent", Mr Modzelewski said.

The Solidarity spokesman spoke shortly after the Communist Party daily *Trybuna Ludu* appeared with a warning that there were signs of anarchy in the country. The newspaper attacked regional unions which are demanding the dismissal of unpopular communist officials, *saying such actions demon-*strated contempt for social norms and the elementary principles of democracy.

Today's meeting of Solidarity's national consultative commission also set up a special council charged with drawing up a programme of union activities and economic reforms.

The council, headed by Mr Andrzej Wielowiejski, an economist, includes scholars, lawyers and agricultural experts as well as Poland's leading dissident Mr Jacek Kuron.

Meanwhile, in the south-eastern town of Ustrzyki Dolne, about 90 farmers and farmworkers continued their occupa*tion of a local government* building in protest against harassment of union activists.

There was also a sit-in at nearby Rzeszow by workers supporting Ustrzyki Dolne, and also calling for the distribution of assets belonging to the now defunct official unions.—Reuter.

Minister warns of backlash if West Bank returned

From Christopher Walker
Kadumin, Occupied West Bank, Jan 8

Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli general and Minister with Responsibility for Settlements, said today that 200,000 Israelis would take to the streets to demonstrate against any attempt by a future Labour government to hand back part of the occupied West Bank to Jordan.

Mr Sharon, replying to British Conservative politicians he was conducting on a controversial tour of the West Bank, claimed that no Israeli government could survive if it attempted to dismantle the 85 Jewish settlements which have been built, or will be under construction by the time a general *election takes place* later

The Israel minister, speaking here at the first settlement to be established by the ultra-nationalist Gush Emunim group of which he is an outspoken sympathizer—emphasized that the downfall of any administration attempting to remove settlements would be brought about by "democratic procedures".

Mr Sharon said the Govern*ment was determined to com*plete its original settlement programme before the election.

Mr John Lee, Conservative MP for Nelson and Colne, him*self* a non-practising Jew told *The Times*: "I started this trip with serious doubts about the settlement policy, and today has confirmed the worst of them. It is obvious that this government is determined to pursue an expansionist settlement policy *in which security needs* take very much a second place".

News analysis

Iran's counter-attack euphoria unjustified

By Drew Middleton
Military Affairs Correspondent
of *The New York Times*

Fighting in Iran has intensified as a result of a counter-offensive that President Bani-Sadr announced on Monday, but analysts in the United States and other Western countries say they find no basis for Iran's *claims of great victories*.

Some advances appear to have occurred, the analysts add. But they say that the main Iraqi positions around Ahvaz, capital of the oil-producing province of Khuzestan, and Abadan, have been held.

There is general agreement among the experts that Iran's attack is running out of steam.

One Nato expert said that Iranian gains in Khuzestan were probably less important than the successful Iraqi invasion of the Iranian province of Kurdistan to the north.

The Iranian counter-offensive, according to Western analysts, was made possible by the careful concentration of regulars and Islamic Revolutionary Guards around Dezful at the northern end of the Khuzestan front.

Analysts, who at first discounted Iran's announcement of a counter-offensive, said on the basis of later information that elements of two or three armoured divisions employing British-made Chieftain tanks, supported by regular infantry and Revolutionary Guards, launched the main attack from the Dezful concentration area toward Susangerd and Ahvaz.

The Iraqis, who had been aware of an offensive since the Iranians had made no secret of their intentions, were well prepared for the attack, according to the analysts.

The Iraqis began to send Soviet-made MiG fighter-bombers over the battlefield to engage the advancing Iranians, whose air support was described as minimal.

Most of the fighting, the analysts reported, was in what is called the Ahvaz corridor between that city and Dezful.

Their information, analysts said, does not confirm the Iranian claims that the counter-offensive wiped out two Iraqi brigades, killing 500 troops and taking 2,000 prisoners. Nor is there anything to verify Iranian reports that the Iraqi line is crumbling in Khuzestan.

Iraq says that its amoured and infantry forces have contained an Iranian attack around Susangerd and that the Iranians are under fire from helicopter gunships and long-range artillery.

According to Nato *analysts*, Iran's counter-offensive has been only marginally successful for reasons that have plagued its forces since the start of the war. These, they said, are faulty *or* at times nonexistent communications between forward troops and headquarters, the absence of a coherent battle plan and political conditions that make surprise attacks virtually impossible.

The Iranians had talked about the coming counter-offensive for at least two weeks before it was launched, analysts pointed out, and Iraqi reconnaissance aircraft and agents could hardly miss the movement of troops and supplies to the Dezful concentration area.

If the counter-offensive is put in its political context, analysts said, it is easy to understand the extravagant claims put out by the Iranians. Iraqi communiqués, too, are exaggerated but those on the Iranian side are considered more fanciful.

Diplomats and military analysts agree that President Bani-Sadr needed a victory in the field to support his fight for power in Tehran. On Tuesday, he proclaimed the offensive a success and analysts in Washington and London believe his political future rests on the Iranian forces' ability to deliver a genuine rather than an illusory victory.

Namibia conference finally starts work

From Nicholas Ashford
Geneva, Jan 8

The pre-implementation conference on Namibia (South West Africa), sponsored by the United Nations, finally got down to work this afternoon. The question of the status of the internal parties had been resolved after almost 30 hours of intensive behind-the-scenes negotiations.

A formula was devised whereby the eight internal parties were able to be introduced separately without undermining a pre-conference agreement that the meeting should be between only two delegations—The *South West Africa People's* Organization (Swapo) and a South African delegation led by Mr Danie Hough, the Administrator-General of the disputed territory, which included the internal parties.

This afternoon, Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary General, presided over a ceremony at which Mr Hough introduced representatives of the parties within his delegation, each member standing up when his name was called out.

However, Mr Sam Nujoma, the Swapo leader, then responded by introducing his delegation which, he pointed out, was "one and united". To emphasize this point, the entire Swapo team simultaneously rose to their feet and gave clenched fist salutes.

From the point of view of the internal parties, they have managed to score a significant point by finally having themselves formally presented at the conference table. This should help to reassure their supporters and the white South African electorate, that they are not going to allow Swapo to run rings around them at Geneva. However their victory is in many respects a hollow one.

In terms of publicity and political point-scoring (which is what this manoeuvring is all about) there can be little doubt that whatever advantage the *internal parties gained* by this afternoon's declaration was overshadowed by Swapo's dramatic gesture of solidarity.

The conference has at least succeeded in bringing together members of opposing sides who had never met before. At a cocktail party last night, members of Swapo and internal Namibian leaders chatted together over canapés and gins and tonics. Mr Nujoma was seen to shake hands with all the white members of the right-wing Aktur delegation.

Lieutenant-General Jannie Geldenhuys, former commander of the South African forces in Namibia, who was responsible for South African raids into southern Angola, chatted amicably to members of the Angolan observer team as well as to Swapo leaders.

"This is even more remarkable than seeing the Rhodesians talking to their terrorists at the Lancaster House conference", one South African official remarked.

Israel officer refutes UN accusation

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Jan 8

The Israeli lieutenant-colonel who led the last chase of Arab guerrillas across the Lebanese border on Christmas Day strongly refuted a United Nations allegation that his men blew up the bodies of five terrorists they killed in an engagement.

The United Nations said a Dutch patrol reported the atrocity. The Israelis said they will protest to Mr Peter de Geus, the Dutch Defence Minister, who arrived today for talks. A meeting was also arranged between General Erskine, Commander of the United Nations Forces in Lebanon, and General Avigdor Bengal, the Israel commander on the northern frontier.

The field commander in the Christmas Eve chase, who was identified only by the pseudonym "Ofer" said today that *his men piled up* captured explosives, grenades and ammunition and blew them up. The soldiers turned over the bodies while they removed documents, including two Al Fatah membership cards, but otherwise left the bodies where they fell.

He said he found them in the same position, although somewhat decayed, on December 29 when he returned with a unit to remove the bodies to Israel for burial. He dismissed as "rubbish" the United Nations report that his men had piled the bodies, "one on top of the other", and after sprinkling them with liquid applied an explosive charge.

The Dutch position in the area towered nearly 5,000 feet over Wadi Zun, where the encounter occurred, and there might have been an optical distortion, he said. A Dutch patrol had, indeed, appeared at the scene but returned to its base after inquiring what was to be done with the bodies.

Iraq says it wiped out an entire armoured brigade

From Tewfik Mishlawi
Beirut, Jan 8.

Iraq said today that Iranian losses during the past three days of fierce fighting were three times the size of losses Iran has suffered since the Gulf War started over three months ago.

An Iraqi communiqué said the Iraq forces "have turned Susangerd into a graveyard for the remaining Iran forces". It said a whole Iranian armoured brigade was totally wiped out and 15 missile bases destroyed.

Mr Taha Yassin Ramadan, a member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, also said that the battles this week were "no less important than those in the first two days of the war," which erupted last September 22. This was the first implicit admission by a senior Iraqi official of the Iranian counter-offensive, which Iran said its forces had launched at the beginning of the week.

Mr Ramadan, who is also commander of Iraq's para-mili*tary organization called* the People's Army, made the announcement in an address to armed units who were sent to reinforce the regular army fighting on the 300-mile front-line between Iraq and Iran.

In his speech, broadcast by *Baghdad radio*, Mr Ramadan said the fighting this week raged on all fronts, especially around the Iranian town of Susangerd in the central sector of the frontline.

'Buckeye three' dropped from white school roll

From Michael Leapman
Buckeye, Louisiana, Jan 8

A federal judge won the latest round here today in a bitter squabble with the state court over where three white girls should go to school. The three did not appear at Buckeye High School for classes this morning and Mr Charles Waites, the headmaster, said he was dropping them from the rolls.

They had been allowed to attend the all-white school for the first three days of the new term despite the decision by Mr Nauman Scott, the federal judge, that they had to go to a *mixed-race school* in Alexandria, 25 miles away. Mr Richard Lee, a state judge, had ruled that custody of the children could be transferred to surrogate parents who lived in the Buckeye attendance zone.

On Tuesday and yesterday Mr Lee had gone to the school to instruct Mr Waites to let the girls in. Yesterday he said he would not be there today because he had been served an order by Mr Scott to appear in court next week to answer a charge of contempt of court.

Mr Waites said he would not admit the girls unless Mr Lee was there to make him do so. That is presumably why they were kept away today.

Announcing the dismissal of the girls with reluctance, Mr Waites made a passionate personal statement of support for their rights to attend his school. "The federal judges are running our schools and I'm sick and tired of it", he said. "I'm ready to see our schools run by local boards. I'm speaking out against our *judicial system. I believe* they've been interpreting the Constitution wrongly."

The dispute arises from a desegregation order issued by Mr Scott last August. Under it, about 100 pupils from Buckeye were assigned to a mixed-race school in Alexandria.

Rather than have them travel so far by bus, most parents, who insist that race is not the issue here, enrolled their children at a private school. Among them is Mr Waites, himself, whose 12-year-old son is now at a private school.

But the parents of "the Buckeye three", as they are known, decided to give up custody of the girls as a means of getting them back into the school they had attended.

Mr Lee insists that the custody of children is in his jurisdiction and he intends to take the issue to higher courts. He has the support of most white people here and has quickly become the local hero.

Yesterday a radio station began playing a new recording of a song in his praise. It goes in part: "Judge Lee, he has set the people free. Judge Lee, it's the only way to be. Judge Lee, he just loves the Buckeye three."

A car wash between the town and the school bears the message: "Thank God for Dick Lee".

OVERSEAS

Wife of Moscow-based diplomat was used to smuggle icons and other relics out of Soviet Union

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Jan 8

Just over a year ago when the Soviet frontier guards at Brest boarded a train bound for West Berlin their suspicions were aroused by a woman's large suitcase. In it was a treasure trove of Russian antiquities—church crosses and about 20 icons worth more than 91,000 roubles (about £58,000), including one icon worth more than 18,000 roubles.

The woman's husband was a diplomat in Moscow and was using her to smuggle out as much of Russia's heritage as he could acquire, confident that his diplomatic status would protect him.

The customs officers had been tipped off by Soviet detectives investigating a ring of icon smugglers who regularly sent antiquities to a West Berlin gallery.

The day before she had picked up her goods in Moscow. Detectives watched her park her Mercedes near a taxi garage.

A taxi driver briskly loaded a suitcase into the boot of another car whose driver later handed him a 100-rouble tip in a Moscow sauna. The case of icons was given to the wife to take on the train.

Icon smuggling has become big business for organized crime in the Soviet Union. For many years after the 1917 revolution icons could be bought for a few loaves of bread and taken out of the country without trouble.

But in spite of atheistic disapproval of such religious baubles, the Soviet state became increasingly worried by the drain of these works of art, many of which were several hundred years old.

Some years ago the regulations were tightened. Icons, Samovars and other prerevolutionary objects d'art were declared national treasures, not to be exported without permission from the Ministry of Culture.

Works of real artistic merit were refused an export licence outright. Less valuable icons could be taken out only on payment of duty equivalent to 100 per cent of the price set by the ministry—irrespective of what the owner paid for it.

These laws have been increasingly flouted, especially by Arab, African and Third World diplomats. In their desire to cultivate good relations with developing countries, the Russians have long turned a blind eye to the black market dealings of many Third World diplomats in Moscow.

For example, they have been particularly harsh towards Westerners caught in currency speculation or smuggling. But although the icons go to the West, including several well known galleries in London, Paris and New York, the channel has usually been the diplomatic bag of a minor embassy.

Customs officers are now opening diplomatic baggage more often—a measure allowed under international convention only if there is good reason to suspect smuggling.

Several Third World diplomats were expelled for icon smuggling last year. In the past few months the Soviet customs have carried out rigorous inspections of the baggage of everyone leaving the country and since September even articles manufactured before 1975 have to be cleared in advance.

It is reliably reported that Soviet detectives and the KGB have begun a campaign to mark all known icons in churches, museums and large private collections with radioactive paint and as diplomatic baggage crosses the Soviet frontier, it is checked with a geiger counter.

As a warning to Russians trading in icons, a Soviet newspaper has published a long account of the trial of those involved in the West Berlin connexion. A man called Mikhail Yershov acted as a go-between for the gallery, scouring the countryside and villages, offering peasants a few roubles for their icons or trading Western watches supplied by the gallery.

He learnt about the market from an accomplice who worked in the famous Andrei Rublyov icon museum in Moscow. But had no scruples about sawing in half icons that were too large to fit into diplomats' suitcases. He used a network of petty dealers to keep him supplied with whatever the gallery needed.

Many of the icons were stolen from village churches. When Yershov was caught at the beginning of last year, police traced a masterpiece that had been missing for 40 years. It was stolen before the war and lay hidden in an attic. It was bought in 1978 for 15 roubles, resold by Yershov for 50,000 roubles and valued by art experts at 370,000 roubles (£236,000). Yershov exchanged it for 20 lesser works which all made their way to the West. But the valuable St George in Life was recovered by the state.

Anti-semitic acts at study centre

From Ivor Davis
Los Angeles, Jan 8

Police here are investigating three anti-semitic incidents which have occurred at the famous Simon Wiesenthal Centre of Holocaust Studies in Los Angeles during the past few days.

The latest was on Wednesday when vandals defaced the side of the building with signs in paint that read: "Kill Jews."

Mr Ronald Reagan, the President-elect, Governor Edmund Brown Jr and Mr Tom Bradley, Los Angeles Mayor, said today they were shocked at the vandalism and Mr Reagan described the acts as "an outrage to Americans".

On Tuesday a rabbi was hit in the arm and a stained glass window was broken by two youths armed with air guns.

On Sunday, two young men with heavy boots and wearing Nazi insignia made anti-Jewish remarks to a woman on duty at the centre's museum.

Marxist group held by Turks

Ankara, Jan 8.—Fifty-one militants of the Partisan faction of the clandestine Turkish Communist Party-Marxist Leninist, have been arrested at the end of a two-month operation, the martial law authorities say.

They face charges of killing six people, armed robberies and bombings in Ankara over the past year, according to the military. A farmhouse belonging to a member of the group at Golbasi, outside Ankara, revealed a large cache of arms.—Reuter.

Tokyo anxious to gain confidence of Asean

From Peter Hazelhurst
Tokyo, Jan 8

Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, making his first overseas visit since he assumed office, arrived in the Philippines today to consolidate Japan's growing ties with the region's most coherent economic alliance, the five member states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (Asean).

In contrast to his predecessors, who made their overseas debut in Washington, Mr Suzuki is travelling to the Philippines, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand to demonstrate his country's solid support for the group of non-communist nations of South-East Asia, officials say.

First, Mr Suzuki will establish how he can help lay down a solid economic foundation in the area—Tokyo's prerequisite for political stability.

Mr Suzuki is also likely to assure the leaders of Asean of continued support for their diplomatic front against Vietnam's invasion of Kampuchea. At present Japan has frozen its aid to Vietnam and supports Asean's resolution in the United Nations General Assembly calling for supervised free elections in Kampuchea. He will also affirm that his new Administration will refuse to recognize Mr Heng Samrin's regime in Phnom Penh.

Although the United States remains the pivot of Tokyo's foreign policy, it is abundantly clear why Mr Suzuki wants to consolidate ties with the relatively prosperous Asean nations. In the first place the Straits of Malacca are vital to Japan's oil supplies and trading ties with the Gulf countries and Europe. At the same time Indonesia and Malaysia are important suppliers of raw materials including oil, rubber, lumber and tin.

Essentially, Mr Suzuki will not present the leaders of Asean with any dramatic plan to provide the region with economic prosperity and political stability. He will however attempt to portray Japan, as the world's second largest industrial power and as a stable and reliable ally in Asia.

But Mr Suzuki will inform the leaders of Asean that Tokyo is not prepared to increase defence spending and thereby take a greater responsibility for the security of non-communist Asia, a step advocated by the United States, by Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Singapore leader, and President Marcos of the Philippines.

In short Mr Suzuki will lay down a somewhat nebulous creed known as the Fukuda Doctrine as his foreign policy approach to South-East Asia.

"There are three pillars to our policy in South-East Asia. First, Japan does not intend to become a military power. Second, we will attempt to establish relations of mutual trust with all nations of South-East Asia. Third, even though we have frozen our aid to Vietnam we will continue to maintain relations with the nations of Indo-China with the hope that we can influence policy to some degree", one of the Prime Minister's advisers says.

The Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia enjoy a trade surplus with Japan while Singapore and Thailand have a trade deficit.

Leading article, page 11

Gas cooker not to blame for Saudi air disaster

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

A hydraulic fluid fire which released toxic gas is now suspected to have caused the accident of a Saudia TriStar airliner at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, last August in which all 301 people on board died. A burning gas cooker carried on board by one of the passengers had previously been suspected.

This is according to *Flight International*, which in its current issue says that it has access to the transcript of the cockpit voice recorder carried on the TriStar and exchanges between the crew and the control tower.

The magazine also discounts theories that the departure of an aircraft of the Saudi royal family was a factor in the loss of life.

According to the transcript, a call from the tower to clear the runway of a vehicle for the royal flight came two minutes after the last call from the TriStar, and four minutes after it had landed back at Riyadh.

Flight International says that a number of safety points arise from the tragedy. There was no passenger briefing by the cabin staff, probably because of passenger panic and the apparent, "negative panic" of the commander, or his reluctance to accept the seriousness of the situation.

The flight crew consulted the wrong checklist for the emergency. There was no "Mayday" call.

The doors were not opened from the inside, perhaps because of fighting and the crush against them, as well as the toxic gas. Residual cabin pressure may also have been a factor. The gas is likely to have killed everybody on board before the main fire.

Nigerians keep diplomatic links with Libya

From Our Correspondent
Lagos, Jan 8

Nigeria officially made it clear today that it has not broken diplomatic relations with Libya nor expelled the Libyan Embassy.

What it has done Professor Ishaya Audu, the Foreign Minister explained at a press conference is to request those Libyans who took over the embassy on Monday and transformed it into a "People's Bureau" to leave the country.

He also spoke out against the recently announced merger between Libya and Nigeria's own neighbour, Chad. Such a proposal was "most unfortunate and indeed premature", he said. An official statement said that only "a new and freely elected Government" in Chad could have a mandate to embark on negotiations for any sort of association.

Boy's tanktop costs him seat on airliner

From Douglas Aiton
Melbourne, Jan 8

A 17-year-old English schoolboy from Horsham, Sussex, was not allowed to board a London-bound Qantas flight from Sydney airport last week because he was wearing a tanktop—a popular but casual coloured singlet-type garment. Peter van der Borg had been on a short visit to Australia with his parents and four brothers, and was returning home alone last Saturday for the start of his college year.

Although the airline later reimbursed about $89 (£44) for expenses incurred, and booked him on a flight the following day, he was late for the college opening. His parents, who are still in Australia, and his aunt, Mrs Louise Luscombe, who lives in Sydney, are angry because of the treatment the boy received, and also because Qantas staff did not help him.

Mrs Luscombe said last night that the action had left her nephew virtually abandoned at the airport with only a few cents in Australian currency in his pockets. "He was wearing a fawn tanktop, clean jeans and thongs (flip flops), and wasn't abusive in any way", she said. "He had gone through all the normal pre-flight procedures, and was about to board the plane when he was approached by a man who asked him if he had anything else to wear"

When he replied that he had not, he was told that the tanktop was not up to the standard required for an overseas flight and that he could not board. Other passengers, who had paid a lot of money, would have to sit beside him.

"It's reprehensible the way they dealt with him", Mrs Luscombe said. Her nephew offered to buy a T-shirt in Hongkong en route, but was told again that he could not travel on the aircraft.

After the incident, the boy telephoned his parents and aunt, holidaying on the New South Wales central coast and later joined them.

A Qantas spokesman said last night that the airline was extremely sorry and had responded by refunding out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the delay. "We do have minimum dress standards, but problems should be detected at an earlier stage."

FOREIGN REPORT

Blatant corruption leaves the Indonesian poor poorer

Beneath the bustling economic activity of Indonesia, there is an undercurrent of political tension largely unknown to the hundreds of Japanese, European and American businessmen who are avidly seeking to exploit the current "boom" atmosphere of this oil-rich developing country.

During a visit to Jakarta last summer, Mr David Rockefeller, president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, publicly described Indonesia as one of the most stable countries in the Pacific area, and one which should be a magnet for foreign investors. To those who follow political events from the inside, however, the situation appears to be one of increasingly high tension, as the country moves toward parliamentary elections this year and presidential elections next year.

The reasons for this tension are several, but high on the list is the blatant corruption of government officials, allegedly including Vice-President Adam Malik and the wife and children of President Suharto, who is expected to stand for a third five-year term. Corruption exists at all levels throughout the heavily overstaffed and inefficient government, but particularly in those offices and ministries involved in awarding lucrative contracts to foreign suppliers.

Corruption also extends throughout the system of higher education, where admissions to faculties of engineering, medicine and economics—popular fields because of the strong demand for graduates—is often arranged by bribes of up to 5m rupiah (£3,500) by parents eager to see their offspring well-placed. An exception is the much respected Technological Institute of Bandung, an engineering and technical university which so far has successfully resisted pressures to admit sons and daughters of high-ranking persons.

But payments of this order are considered small stuff in the present atmosphere in Jakarta, where new cars, including Mercedes costing over £16,000, choke the streets, and where high-rise air-conditioned buildings overlook squalid shacks and fetid canals which are nothing more than open sewers. One general in an expansive mood recently boasted of having received $800,000 (£333,000) from a French source for the award of an important project. "That's nothing," scoffs an informed Indonesian. "Much larger payments are made—and they are not secret either, since people here always boast about how much money they are making from 'development'."

Another source of tension is the growing power of the right wing of the Partai Persatuan Pembangunan (PPP), or United Development Party, a coalition of Islamic groups. Although more than 95 per cent of Indonesia's population is Muslim, the governments of both former President Sukarno and of President Suharto have resisted demands from traditionalist sectors to establish Islam as the state religion.

Since the rise of militant Islamic fundamentalism in Iran and elsewhere, the Government of Indonesia has attempted to counter-balance such pressures through increased homage paid to the Pantjasila, or Five Principles, which form the official state ideology. Every middle and higher-level government official, including university professors, is required to attend a two-week seminar on the meaning of the Five Principles.

"I put it off as long as I could," confided a respected professor of economics. "But now they tell me that I have to go to the next one. Otherwise my career is finished." The same official reported after the seminar, which lasted eight hours a day, six days a week, that one of the topics discussed was whether the constitution of Indonesia forbade a person from standing for the presidency a third time.

This points to the third and most important source of political tension. President Suharto has held effective power since 1967, when Indonesia began its slow rise from the chaos of an attempted communist coup and the orgy of killings which



President Suharto, expected to stand for a third five year term.

occurred during the counter-revolution, in 1965 and 1966.

Economic progress since those times has been considerable. Inflation was brought down from more than 600 per cent to about 15 per cent a year. In the 1979-1980 fiscal year the country enjoyed a balance-of-payments surplus for the first time. A middle class has been emerging as economic activity increases. Expenditure on food has fallen on average from a 1969 record of 77 per cent of household income to a 1978 level of 65.5 per cent. Non-food consumer spending has increased. Emphasis on mass education has resulted in an increase in the number of children in primary schools, from 65 per cent in 1973 to 94 per cent in 1980. Rural health clinics are now to be found in many areas previously without health services. Family planning has lowered fertility rates, though overcrowding, especially on the island of Java, remains a big problem.

But economic progress has left most of the rural poor and urban slum-dwellers as badly or worse off as they were 10 years ago. Recent figures on income distribution disclose an apparent decline in real income for the poorest 40 per cent of Indonesia's 135 million people. This has dismayed many of the dedicated planners, economists and other technocrats who are at the forefront of the development effort.

In part they see this phenomenon as reflecting the difficulty of devising ways of reaching the poor with aid. But they also blame a growing preoccupation on the part of high officials with lining their own pockets, and with leaving the conduct of business to ill-trained and inexperienced juniors.

Finally, many Indonesian intellectuals and civil servants are disturbed by the apparent reluctance of President Suharto to relinquish power. "He'll be President until the year 2000", one well-known artist said. His companion joined in: "He's a good man, really. But he's too useful to those who are making money. They'll never let him go."

Open political discussions are no longer possible, as they were during the early days of the regime. After riots early in 1974, during which the Government's future was in doubt for several days, a press crackdown commenced which has now been extended to films, television, and the foreign press. It is not unusual to find articles in foreign newspapers and magazines thickly daubed with black printer's ink, when the censors have judged that they show the Government in an unfavourable light. Local news tends to be self-censored.

Isolated incidents of violence involving troops seem to indicate that tensions can reach breaking point. When the former rector of the Technological Institute of Bandung appeared unwilling or unable to curb political activity on the campus, his house was shot up one night by a detachment of soldiers. The rector quickly resigned. Recently the Indonesian legal aid society complained of threats and intimidation directed at two of its leading lawyers, and military men have beaten up and severely injured Hadji Fatwa, the Muslim scholar.

A recent order from Muhammad Yusuf, the Minister of Defence, requires all government employees to receive military training. This is coupled with an attempt by special military squads to confiscate illegally-held firearms from civilians. There are said to be several thousand such arms in the hands of the population.

Several months ago 50 of the country's most prominent citizens, including the very popular former Governor of Jakarta, Ali Sadikin, and a hero of the liberation movement, General Nasution, signed a letter to Parliament complaining of alleged abuses of power by the President. The rights of the signers have been curtailed, none may travel overseas or work for the Government, and all are under surveillance.

The strategic importance of Indonesia to the West is undeniable. Lying between the Asian land mass and Australia and New Zealand, this country—the fifth largest in the world by population—has been known as a staunch friend of the West since the coming to power of the Suharto Government.

But the tensions present in most developing nations are exacerbated here by the immense gulf between the very rich and very poor. A taxi driver, who must work long hours for low wages and enjoys no social benefits of any kind, pauses at a traffic light and watches while a cavalcade of limousines roars down a main thoroughfare, sirens screaming.

He turns to his passenger, and uncharacteristically for a Javanese, offers a comment. "That is where the money goes", he says. "But the little people know *tuan*! The little people know."

If the history of other Asian political regimes is an example, the stability of the Suharto Government would appear to be much less certain than either Mr David Rockefeller or the foreign business community suspect.

A Special Correspondent

Student duelling returns to Heidelberg



A gathering of a student fighting fraternity, complete with pillbox hats and frogged jackets and, below, student duellers of the past.

Passers-by in a Heidelberg square one sunny morning could not believe their eyes. There in the heart of the romantic old city were students with embroidered pillbox hats, velvet frogged jackets, colourful sashes and thighboots sitting at long wooden tables, inviting them to join them in a beer.

It might have been a scene from *The Student Prince*. But it was real. After being swept out of the universities by the student protest movement of 1968 the *Verbindungen*, the German student fraternities, are creeping back again.

With them come some memories of one of the most romantic, yet controversial, traditions Germany has known: duelling.

Those who went misty-eyed at the music of *The Student Prince* will remember the bright uniforms, the carousing and the pranks of the days when being a student was far more important than actually studying.

Wartime films spread the image of the "bad" German, the cruel Nazi or the granite-hard industrialist with deep, sinister scars on his face. The marks, once a status symbol but now sneered at, bore witness to the duels in his student days.

The drinking was legendary even by German standards. Young *Verbindung* members were compelled to down beer after beer in a kind of military drill until they learnt to stay on their feet while blind drunk.

The old boy system, the flags, the refectory tables, the jargon, the customs and the particular brand of all-male companionship had a strong whiff of the English public school. But from the impeccable social manners they cultivated to the crude beer-swilling they loved, they were indelibly German.

The *Verbindungen* all but disappeared when the 1968 student movement set out to rid the universities of the "mould of 1,000 years". Any student who dared to show himself in a pillbox hat or even with the narrow everyday ribbon across his chest was derided as something from the prehistoric past.

Some had to close completely. The richly-endowed fraternity houses in university towns were often almost empty. Some abolished duelling, one of their most criticized activities, others took up karate instead.

But in the past year or two groups of students in hats and ribbons have been seen strolling unashamedly in the streets of university towns. Fraternities are delightedly reporting a steady increase in would-be members.

It is not nostalgia, it seems, but life in modern universities that is driving students back to fraternity life. Lonely youths are seeking warmth and comradeship, others a cheap and congenial room which is often hard to get, yet others hope for help from members in the difficult business of getting a job.

In return they have to accept that membership of the fraternity is for life. Even after they leave they have to join in frequent social events, give money and help younger members to find their place in the world.

If they join a *Schlagende Verbindung* (fighting fraternity) they are also obliged to fight with razor-sharp swords at least twice a year. The custom, originally designed to teach a student to defend himself if insulted, for instance, by an officer, has now dwindled to a curious ritual.

Heavily padded and with metal goggles to protect their eyes they do not fence but stiffly hack at each other, five blows each per round, 30 rounds in a fight. Any sign of cowardice brings shame on the fraternity and another fight as a penalty.

The only real danger is a cut on the face now carefully stitched but in the past widened so the scar was deep and visible.

Members have difficulty explaining why they do it. Few say they enjoy duelling, most dislike it and confess they are scared. They say outsiders cannot understand what it means. It is a sign of belonging, a commitment.

Apart from rare exceptions women are not allowed to join. In fighting fraternities duelling is the reason, others have a variety of explanations which make psychologists suspect the revival is partly a subconscious escape flight from emancipated girl students.

Reluctance to admit women is only one sign of what is fundamentally a conservative institution. It originated 165 years ago as a political movement for German unity and old values—comradeship, lifelong fellowship, honour, freedom and the fatherland—dominate their statutes.

The revival is still small. Whereas about two thirds of the student population used to belong to fraternities, at present only about 40,000 of the one million students are members.

And the new generation of *Verbindungsstudenten* are toning down the tradition. They claim they do not drink any more than an average student, duelling is kept to a minimum and the once time-consuming social activities have been drastically cut.

With slender means, a limit to the time he can spend at university and the need to compete desperately for a dwindling number of jobs, today's student has to keep his nose in his books. The days of the student prince are over.

Patricia Clough

Bolivia: A land of repression

Five months after its latest military coup, Bolivia has taken on a superficial air of normality; the streets of La Paz, a mountain city nearly 12,000ft up in the Andes, are full of bustle during the day and most people have returned to work.

But the atmosphere changes at night at the approach of 11 pm as people hurry to get home before the curfew begins. From then until 6 am the streets are virtually empty except for detachments of armed soldiers, and then La Paz looks like an occupied city.

The reason for the surface calm, in fact, is that the policy of repression has been effective. The leaders of the political parties and the trade unions, many of them seized on the day of the coup, July 17, have gone into exile; and those that remain are in hiding.

Arrests and detentions are no longer taking place on the scale of the first two months after the coup, when there was widespread torture and killing. But people are still taken in for questioning, and the policy of intimidation ensures that most of the population keep their heads down.

There are only about five million Bolivians, living in a country which is large by European standards. Part of it lies in the Andean *altiplano* and part in the tropical lowlands which border Brazil. It is a potentially rich country, with good agricultural land in the lowlands and vast mineral resources.

But over the years it has become known for the frequency of its military coups and for the overall poverty and backwardness of its people of whom more than half are pure Indians.

In recent years there has been a determined attempt, strongly backed by the Carter Administration in Washington, to establish a democratic system. This culminated in an election last year, as a result of which Señor Hernan Siles Zuazo, leader of a leftist coalition, was expected to be elected President by Congress.

Before that could happen, however, the Bolivian armed forces took over, in what was clearly a carefully planned coup. The fact that it was so successful, unlike one the previous year, is attributed to the fact that it had backing from the Argentine military Government, which sent advisers.

One reason for the coup was military distaste for the prospect of a civilian government, particularly a leftist one. Another reason, put forward by many Bolivians and officials in Washington, was to protect the interests acquired by leading members of the armed forces in the lucrative business of drug trafficking.

Bolivia is a large producer of coca, used to make cocaine. In the past few years coca has become a large, though illicit, part of the Bolivian economy; there are estimates that it brings hundreds of millions of dollars into the country each year, or up to half the value of Bolivia's official exports.

Large quantities of coca leaves are grown and transported across the country, usually to the Santa Cruz area, in the lowlands, where there are innumerable small runways from which to fly them out of the country. Some go in leaf form, some are processed in Bolivia.

This is a large operation and could not be carried out without at least the complicity of the authorities. The belief is that some members of the armed forces are not just conniving at the traffic, but taking an active part themselves.

The United States has still not re-established normal relations with Bolivia since the coup, and has cut off aid—though the Bolivian Government hopes for a change after Mr Ronald Reagan takes office. Britain and other European countries are also taking a hands-off attitude.

There has been pressure from fellow members of the Andean Pact, which includes Venezuela, Colombia, Peru and Ecuador. The extent of the disapproval of Bolivia's northern neighbours was shown when President Luis Garcia Meza was not invited to celebrations in December of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the death of Bolivar in Colombia.

In reaction President Garcia announced that Bolivia would leave the Andean Pact. But the Bolivian government has not so far carried out that threat.

Inside Bolivia, there is opposition to the present regime from "constitutionalist" members of the armed forces, though they have been removed from positions of influence, and an attempt at a counter-coup in November failed.

There has also been criticism of the July coup and its aftermath from the Church, itself regarded as altogether too leftist by many military men and a target for repression.

The regime has proved stronger, however, than many of its opponents had hoped. In its defence, officials maintain that the armed forces moved in to end the disturbances during the period leading up to the elections; and make the remarkable claim that because there is now no open opposition the regime is based on consensus.

The better known political leaders and trade unionists have been released from custody and expelled. But, though the regime denies holding any political prisoners, a number of people are believed to be still held.

The main challenge which the military Government now faces is an economic one. The Bolivian economy has been running down and the country is heavily in debt. The latest instalment of a loan from the International Monetary Fund was not made available because the fund's requirements had not been met.

The Government has said that it will take the sort of unpopular measures that are required—the raising of the price of petrol, for instance, and the removal of food subsidies. But it has hesitated to bring the measures in, presumably for fear of disturbances and uncertainty over its own ability to control them.

Peter Strafford

THE ARTS

Retrospective on a vigorous enemy of society

Yilmaz Güney season

National Film Theatre

The Stunt Man (X)

Classics Haymarket, Oxford St., Chelsea, Hendon; Odeon, Swiss Cottage

The Turkish cinema—which boasts a prodigal production of apparently awful melodrama for local consumption—labours under the considerable handicap that its best director, biggest star and only artist of international standing has, since 1975, been serving a 19-year gaol sentence for killing a judge in a café brawl. Since then, however, Yilmaz Güney has continued to write detailed shooting scripts for films that are realized, in Güney's own manner, by his loyal associate Zeki Okten. *The Herd*, a film made under these conditions, won the Grand Prix at the 1979 Locarno Festival and the British Film Institute award in the same year; another, *The Enemy*, was shown at the London Film Festival last year. Now the National Film Theatre is to present, between next Tuesday and January 30, a ten-film retrospective of Güney's best work.

Born in 1937, Güney worked his way through university as a labourer, and in 1958 was writer-actor on the film *Children of the Earth*. A handsome man, with tough, virile features which manage to blend warmth with rock-like resolution, he quickly became a top star in 40 or more of the cheap action pictures that are the staple of Turkish film production.

When he came to direct his own pictures—the earliest in the NFT season is *Bride of the Earth*, made in 1968—he used the lessons he had learnt in telling stories through fast and exciting action. He brought enough new qualities to his films, however, in the way of social criticism, to attract unfavourable attention from the more reactionary quarters of the official Turkish establishment.

Güney's films all in one way or another expose a society of economic inequality and backward social structures, where by tradition women are exploited and suppressed, where there is a constant undefined opposition between proletariat and authority, where such destructive cultural legacies as blood feuds still hold sway.

It is characteristic of the dark social vision of Güney's films that his heroes often prefer apparently desperate alternatives to the wretched role allotted to them in organized society. Thus the leading characters in *The Father* (1971) and *The Poor Ones* (1974-75) both choose gaol in preference to starvation conditions in the outside world. In *Anxiety* (1974) a poor cotton worker sells his daughter to get a little money. In *The Enemy* (1980) the hero accepts a humiliating job poisoning stray dogs whose lot seems in fact much the same as his own.

The hero-group of *Elegy* (1971), which was shown to the press this week, are smugglers and outlaws who look like close cousins to the lost bandits of Bunuel's *L'Age d'Or*. They have abandoned the oppressive poverty and ignorance of the neighbouring village to live in an abandoned settlement on the mountainside which is incessantly bombarded by falls of rock which have already destroyed the place and killed or driven off its inhabitants.

Güney himself plays the leader of this band of instinctive revolutionaries, who are eventually annihilated by legal society—though not before they have established moral and political links with a woman doctor of the locality. This woman, as Hans Stempel and Martin Ripken's documentary, *Portrait of Yilmaz Güney*, points out, is the only female character in all his films to achieve a degree of independence and emancipation.

This documentary, which is also in the season, includes a long interview with Güney in his island prison. Apparently resigned, and industriously writing on, Güney talks persuasively and even optimistically about the didactic potential of the cinema in bringing about political education of the Turkish masses.



Yilmaz Güney in *Elegy*, leader of a group of smugglers and outlaws "who look like close cousins to the lost bandits of Bunuel's *L'Age d'Or*"

Both *The Stunt Man* and its director Richard Rush have had somewhat spotty careers. Throughout the Sixties, Rush was making a series of cheap, unpretentious pictures whose titles now mean practically nothing. He caught the early Seventies spirit rather unfortunately: *Getting Straight* had Elliott Gould as an over-age college radical; *Freebie and the Bean* was a messy comedy-thriller with Alan Arkin and James Caan as cheerfully corruptible cops. Since then not much has been heard of Rush until *The Stunt Man*.

As early as 1971 it was announced that he was making a film of that title; and presumably it was the same project, since Paul Brodeur's novel, on which it is based, had come out the previous year. In fact, however, the film was not completed until seven years later; and even then it lingered on the shelf for a couple of years before the distributors decided what to do with such an oddity. It was eventually released, to extravagant reviews from the smart set of American film critics, who tend to be pushovers for the sort of metaphorical, symbolical, psychological and generally Meaningful pretensions that characterize this anecdote.

To be fair, the film has a *panache*—in the telling of the tale and the vivid visual style as well as a saving grace of humour—that keeps it going, most of the way, as an entertainment. The opening swiftly establishes its atmosphere of mystery and anxiety: a bearded, handcuffed fugitive stumbles into the shooting of a perilous film stunt, and causes the death of the stunt man.

He is thereupon taken up by the Mephistophelean film director, who secretes him from the police and metamorphoses him, by means of a shave and hair-dye, into both beauty as well as recklessly willing stunt man, who falls into a tempestuous affair with the leading lady. The stage is thus set for a (finally rather inconclusive) battle between the three of them, for the young man's body and soul.

Peter O'Toole plays the director who uses a camera-crane to descend from the skies, a tiresome *deus ex machina*, to intervene in the affairs of the lesser beings in his microcosmic film crew. O'Toole, who once seemed to possess every advantage an actor could hope for, has now definitely abandoned acting for mannerism, forcing his face and his diction into a bizarre, overdone impersonation of Charles Laughton (or maybe it is Bette Davis).

The Stunt man himself is Steve Railsback, who starts off in the character as if it were an extension of his one-time film personification of Charles Manson, but then gives a lot of interest to the boy's groping incomprehension and spasmodic anger. The girl is Barbara Hershey, who at one time changed her name to Seagull and has always had difficulties in giving firm definition to the characters she plays. A score of credited stunt men liven things up with an intermittent circus.

David Robinson

● *Sitting Ducks*, which opened at the ICA yesterday, is also running at the Paris Pullman for an indefinite season.

Literary flair makes absorbing ballet

Copenhagen

It is more than four years since the Royal Danish Ballet visited New York, and even longer since it was last in London. Admittedly in 1980 the company staged a Bournonville festival in Chicago and large numbers of British and American enthusiasts and critics attended the Copenhagen festival for Bournonville towards the end of 1979.

As a result, to judge from recent Anglo-American press reports, the Royal Danes would appear to be dancing the works of their nineteenth-century master, August Bournonville, and absolutely nothing else. Untrue. At present there is no Bournonville in the immediately current repertory, which is dominated by *En Skaersommernatsdron* and Erik Bruhn's new staging of *Giselle*.

En Skaersommernatsdrom is a full-evening ballet by the American choreographer John Neumeier, which I saw at its première by the Hamburg Ballet in 1977 when it was called *Ein Sommernachtstraum*. Most Shakesperian scholars would know it better as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. At his best Neumeier lacks for nothing in choreographic invention, but, whether at his best or his worst his ballets often have a strange literary cast to them. Sometimes it even seems that he regards ballet as a means of making annotations and comments to music and literature. When this strangely eclectic method comes off, it can be a dramatic experience; when it does not it appears oddly flat and pretentious.

In *Midsummer Night's Dream* it comes off with the flair of fireworks coruscating in a midnight sky. It is intellectually absorbing, musically bizarre but fascinating, while the choreography has a sweep and confidence that would amaze all but the most rigid of Neumeier's many American detractors. It sets the ballet in a world of ruritanian romance, except for the supernaturals who wear sci-fi space underwear. The music is a mixture of Mendelssohn, for the lovers, electronic music by György Ligeti for the fairies and traditional organ-grinder music for the clowns.

It is also the sexiest version of the story I have ever seen, with, as example, a slitheringly sensual duet for Titania and the transmogrified Bottom, while even the relationship between Oberon and Puck seems uncommonly warm. Incidentally, Neumeier follows the precedent of Peter Brook's staging of the play by combining the roles of Oberon and Theuseus, Hippolyta and Titania, and Puck and Philostrate. Despite the fathomless passions and mad jealousies found in this fairy kingdom, both the clowns and the lovers, in their disparate ways, are truly funny, and the device of a mechanical organ played on stage for the "mechanicals" is theatrical genius.

In some ways the Danes perform the ballet better than did the original cast; it is a company uncommonly strong in mimes and character dancers. Johnny Eliasen, the beautiful Linda Homberg and, in his best role to date, Frank Andersen, were spirited and spiritual as Oberon, Titania and Puck. Toben Jeppesen made an eccentrically dominating figure as Bottom, and with performers such as Niels Kehlet and Fredbjorn Bjornsson among the clowns, who could go wrong?

In contrast, Bruhn's new *Giselle* is understandably and properly conventional. It has very romantic settings by Desmond Heeley, uses the John Lanchbery adaptation of the Adam music and makes the peasant *pas de deux* into a *pas de quatre*. Two original touches are the introduction of old people into the first act to keep Giselle's mother company, and having Bathilde and Myrtha played by the same dancer.

The ballet was decently danced, with Arne Villumsen as a fairly dashing Albrecht, and a young corps de ballet girl, Ann Kristen Hauge, sweetly wraithlike as Giselle. And what a pleasure to see the commanding presence of the company's director, Henning Kronstam, in the mime role of the Prince of Courland. Ideally generals should always lead their armies from the front.

Clive Barnes

Cold Chips

Thames

Michael Church

The pleasures to be had from watching television are many and various, but one which currently seems in short supply is that of watching a big commercial company take a creative risk. There is of course plenty of safe gambling on exportable films studded with starry names, and one can still stumble upon the occasional inspired one-off like Granada's *All-American All-Nite Show*, but it is rare for a risk to be built into the structure.

Take Six is the name of an interesting and imaginative risk taken by Thames and masterminded by the producer Udi Eichler: a documentary series offering directorial debuts to a handful of folk who might not otherwise have got the chance. Eichler has apparently defined his role as helping people do their thing, talking problems through with them but refusing to become a prime mover.

Cold Chips, which was last night's inaugural contribution, represented two debuts: a directorial one for Laurens Postma, who recently graduated from the London International Film School, and one for Tim Thomas as a television entertainer.

Purportedly a didactic piece of light entertainment about man in his technological future, this show did not really work, but the fault lay less in the material than in its treatment. Thomas, whose new one-man show opens at the Young Vic tonight, incidentally, is a refreshingly funny and original performer but he needs to be surrounded by a still space in which to weave his spell. This collaboration all but drowned in sub-Kenny Everett gimickry and it exploited Thomas's protean gifts in a way that was often too strained and too hysterical to hold the attention. A few well-aimed prods from a producer—sharpen this, cut that, clear away the clutter—would, alas, have done wonders.

The next two programmes in the series, of which I have seen previews, are both unusual. *Act of God*, directed by Peter Greenaway, is a compilation of interviews with people who have been struck by lightning. Those who do not like it will dismiss it as being inconsequential; those who do will appreciate its stylish wierdness.

King's Head, directed by the film editor Jeremy McCracken, is a deft portrait of London's leading theatre-pub, and of the ramshackle, risk-taking nature of the enterprise underlying it. One of the most striking things about this splendid establishment is the fierce loyalty of those who regularly work, eat, drink or perform there. McCracken's film explains why this should be.

Afterwards come programmes on junior ballroom dancing, bawdy hen parties, tabloid images of the female body, and on life in a children's ward in Great Ormond Street. Worth keeping tabs on.

Book review

The Bedside Guardian

Edited by W. L. Webb
(Collins, £5.95)

The Sunday Times Bedside Book

Edited by George Darby
(André Deutsch, £6.50)

Anthologizing newspapers and putting the results between hard covers every year is about as painless a form of publishing as it is possible to imagine. This is the 29th such effort from *The Guardian*, and the second from *The Sunday Times* and experience does show. *The Guardian* has a charmingly chatty introduction by Shirley Williams and actually bothers to identify each piece with a date. When the article is a book review one is told the title and author and there is an index at the back with the contributors listed in alphabetical order. There's none of this in *The Sunday Times* offering, just a contents list, and a line under the title which says "The best of contemporary writing from one of the world's great newspapers".

The Guardian anthology, in other words, can make some legitimate claim to being what one might describe as a book. *The Sunday Times* one looks as if a pile of old cuttings was sent off to André Deutsch in a taxi one day, printed up and returned with a blurb which is so fulsome that even for a blurb it takes the biscuit "shrewdest . . . best informed . . . liveliest . . . quite simply the best . . . undoubtedly Britain's best newspaper". *The Guardian* indulges in no such superlatives. Indeed Mrs. Williams remarks only "*The Bedside Guardian's* a better bedmate than many you may meet. As for *The Guardian* itself, qwertyuiops, and all, it does get you through the week".

Some of *The Sunday Times* articles come from the colour magazine but there are no colour photographs. Indeed neither book has photographs, just a few pocket cartoons. All the emphasis is on the writing. *The Guardian* opens with Simon Hoggart on Denis Thatcher, *The Sunday Times* with Russell Miller on Henley. *The Sunday Times* team includes long serving regulars such as Lewis Chester, Godfrey Smith, Derek Jewell, and Frank Giles as well as identifiably *Sunday Times* people whose reputation relies as much on books (Jilly Cooper) or TV (Michael Parkinson), as their journalism. They also have Roy Fuller, Tina Brown, now editor of *The Tatler* Anthony Holden now with *The Observer*, and Angela Carter, whom I had always thought of as the very model of a *Guardian* person, though she is not in the *Guardian* anthology so I am obviously mistaken.

The Guardian feels a little less like an all-star invitation XI and more like a team: John Arlott, James Cameron, Alex Hamilton, Nancy Banks-Smith, Simon Hoggart, and Jill Tweedie are among the regulars and (relative) outsiders—Bernard Crick and E. P. Thompson for example—are the sort of people whose point of view and style sits well with those of the staff contributors. Even though Thompson has a lengthy disagreement with Peter Jenkins over nuclear disarmament it is couched in terms that make it clear that they are both on the same side of the fence, *really*.

No writer features in both books, though James Fenton who was in *The Guardian* last year is in *The Sunday Times* this (and much better on "Amadeus" at the National, than he was on German democracy). Some subjects crop up in both places (Reagan, the Olympics, Afghanistan and Thatcherism)—though considering that both are based on British national newspapers reporting on the same year the difference in subject matter is surprising. Foreign reporters from both newspapers returned to survey the aftermath of Pol Pot in Phnom Penh (which *The Guardian* spells without the first "h"). *The Sunday Times* visited Rampton, *The Guardian* went to Walton and Brixton prisons. Bernard Levin hated "Evita" in *The Sunday Times*, and Michael Billington, in *The Guardian* enjoyed the Royal Court "Hamlet". Both have time for nature notes of a sort ("Good weather for breaking in new boots"—*Guardian*; "Homeward bound on Friday nights, I drive from Dorchester along a Roman road"—*Sunday Times*).

Of the two I prefer *The Guardian* book, not just because it is so much better organized and presented, but also because, pace the *ST's* blurb writer, it is so much better written. A matter of taste, perhaps, but on this evidence *The Guardian* has a sharpness and originality which I missed in *The Sunday Times*. A little humility as well.

Tim Heald

Matumbi

The Venue

Richard Williams

Reggae music has made enormous strides over the past decade, but its advance has been slowed by the difficulty with which it has adapted itself to live performance. It must be remembered that reggae has always been bred primarily in the recording studio, and, while this has little effect on Jamaican musicians, who are rarely called upon to perform before an audience, British reggae artists are expected to make regular appearances and have had, in a sense, to invent their own language for the purpose.

Matumbi, a young London band who have worked together since 1971, are still learning the lessons. Apart from the American soul tradition, which has some application in this respect, their only real exemplars when it comes to concerts are the Wailers, for whom Bob Marley successfully annexed some aspects of rock performance, and Burning Spear, whose Winston Rodney makes his impact through sheer presence.

At the moment, Matumbi have no such obvious qualities. Their assets include Dennis Bovell, the composer and guitarist who is perhaps the most imaginative young record producer in Britain (his work with Linton Kwesi Johnson, The Pop Group and Janet Kay has been consistently stimulating), some mildly attractive songs, a solid command of the idiom and a corporate good nature.

On the other hand, too many of their songs deal with well-worn subjects (Zimbabwe, the "sus" law) in a manner which suggests they have nothing new to contribute to the discussion, and their performance on Wednesday night was, for the most part, unduly diffident in the face of a muted but approving audience. Reggae as a whole is not noted for its love of contrast, but they might have made more emphatic use of their flugelhornist and trombonist, while Webster Johnson, who plays keyboards, did enough to suggest that he might profitably be given more scope.

The singing of Bevin Fagan and Glaister Venn was pleasant, with Fagan's urgent tenor the more impressive, and there was a diverting appearance during the encores by Roy Reid, the talkover disc jockey better known as I. Roy, but Matumbi need to learn how to pace a set, how to inject contrast, and how to be more assertive of their individuality.

Lesley Collier and Michael Coleman

La Fille mal gardée

Covent Garden

John Percival

Wednesday's performance of *La Fille mal gardée* was recorded by BBC cameras for transmission at a later date, not yet set, and for inclusion in the prospective publications of Covent Garden Video Ltd. So the first two works in the video series have come from opposite ends of the range of choices.

The Royal Opera's *Hoffmann*, recorded last week, is a new, somewhat disputable production with an all-star cast. The Royal Ballet's *Fille* is an old favourite in a familiar production with a standard repertory cast. Somebody really should have told the cameramen that dinner jackets were not necessary this time.

There is a lot to be said for recording the Royal Ballet as it is, without any special frills, and Lesley Collier was the obvious choice from among the present leading dancers to play Lise. She dances the part sweetly and with dash; not so much depth or variety as some we remember, but very acceptable.

Unfortunately the obvious Colas is on the sick list. Michael Coleman filled in with his usual sturdy professionalism, but this was never one of his best roles and, now that he has added a stronger personality, there are some dodgy moments in the technique. He even danced a changed ending of the big solo; a pity not to have the definitive version going down to history.

But altogether this is hardly a definitive *Fille*. The *corps de ballet* is in splendid form, and anyone who reruns the video 10 years from now is likely to spot some faces around the edge of the stage of dancers who by then have become stars. The solo performances are less stellar; in fact Leslie Edwards's jovial portrait of old Thomas, a part he created, is the only one that has not been much better done by former casts.

There seemed, incidentally, to be much overacting all round, but perhaps the cameras need that and it will look better on the small screen.

Some of the reviews on this page are reprinted from yesterday's later editions

Pavarotti misses 'Ballo' opening

The management of the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, have announced that Luciano Pavarotti will be unable to sing the opening performance of Verdi's *Un ballo in maschera* on January 15 for personal family reasons of illness.

Mr Pavarotti is, however, expected to sing Gustavus at the remaining performances on January 19, 22, 26 and 30 and on February 3, 6 and 11.

A further announcement concerning the change of cast for January 15 will be made as soon as possible, the opera house said.

Rien ne va plus

Tricycle

Irving Wardle

Interested readers of this week's *Sunday Times* feature on "The Godfather of the Riviera" may pursue the story to 269 Kilburn High Road, where the gangland massacres linked with the name of Tony "Mr X" Zampa take an even grislier turn: namely an attempted takeover of the Palais Casino, Nice, which has reduced that erstwhile haunt of the British upper crust to a desolate shell picketed for the past two years by militant croupiers.

I owe that information more to the programme note than to Pip Simmons's text and production, which announces that its characters bear no resemblance to any persons living or dead, while also claiming that "the words are in almost every case those spoken by the actual people involved".

Nobody has decided whether the show is to be a fable or a documentary; so we start off with a picture of the fatuous British lording it along the Promenade des Anglais in the 1920s before being fleeced at the gaming tables; and then move up to date with the gallant staff chorusing the "Marseillaise" and hurling defiance at the hoodlums' efforts to "destroy our reputation for honest trading".

Narrative logic never was Mr Simmons's strongest point but in every other respect I found this show an unexpected delight. Played against a silver doorway framed with potted palms, the whole thing works by bold colour contrasts. It is, for instance, a great moment when the four white-trousered British exit to kill themselves like gentlemen (revolvers respectfully served on a silver plate), and instantly return as black-suited mafiosi. Likewise the transformation of Sheila Burnett from a grey-uniformed page into a scarlet-gartered emblem of the new regime.

The company of six excel in quick-change caricature, whether as toothy British pleasure-seekers or as the "boys from Organzola" whose menace is much heightened by their butterball grins and courteous manners.

Full house

All 10 concerts the first part of the Philharmonia Orchestra's 1980-81 season at the Royal Festival Hall were sold out. With the general situation reflecting no improvement on audience figures during the first part of the current season, the Philharmonia attributes its record-breaking audience attendances to the subscription scheme which it was the first London orchestra to adopt.

Peter Straffo

Contemporary Music Network

Groups appearing on the Contemporary Music Network in the spring will include the Delphonic Ensemble of Japan, directed by the Japanese composer Joji Yuasa. Performing in traditional dress, the musicians will present both traditional and modern works.

Other ensembles on the touring circuit will be the Sam Rivers Trio, playing improvised free jazz, the Schutz Choir of London, giving the first performances of Nigel Osborne's *Gnostic Passion*, and Electric Phoenix, offering extended vocal techniques and electronics. There will be more jazz from the Don Rendell Nine, including Rendell's *Earth Music*, vocal acrobatics from the Trio Exvoco of Stuttgart and works by Knussen, Birtwistle, Stravinsky and Mozart in a programme by the London Sinfonietta.

SPORT

Tennis

Points in favour of life insurance

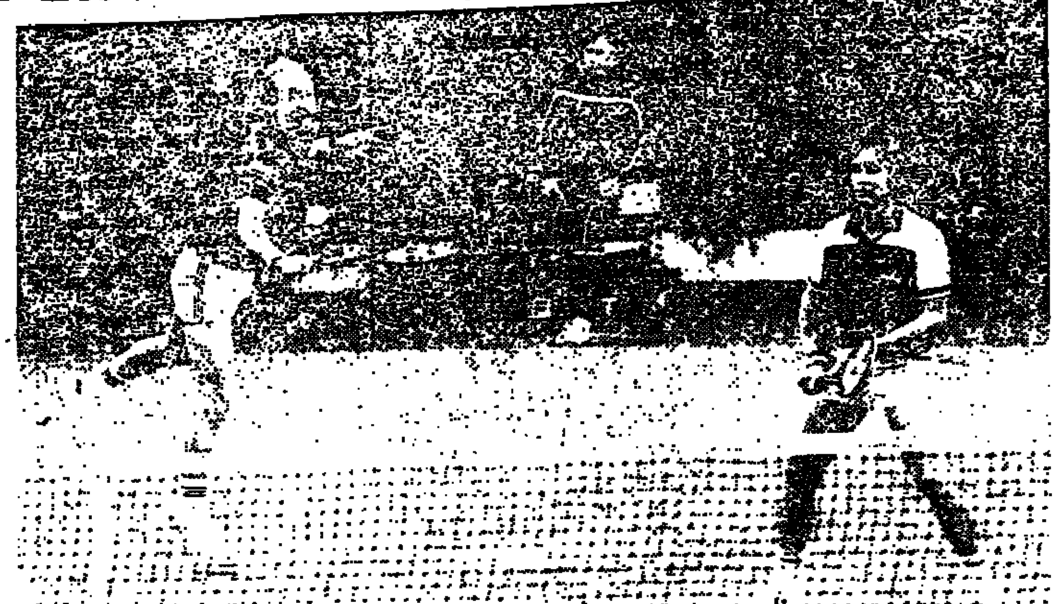
By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

World Championship Tennis, the Dallas-based promoters, have had a lot of bright ideas since they burst into the game with much swiftly discarded gimmickry in the winter of 1967-68. The latest, backed by the Canon company (who make cameras, copying machines and calculators), concerns the bonuses awarded to the eight men who play in the Dallas climax of the annual series of WCT tournaments.

Points will be awarded to players in accordance with their achievements at eight tournaments played from January to April. The player to score most points will win a golden tennis ball valued at £4,250. The winners of the eight tournaments (in the event of duplication, the next highest points scorer will move in) will qualify for Dallas—and the right to choose from a variety of bonuses, all with an initial value of £8,500, that mostly take the form of long-term investments.

The players who compete in Dallas can choose a bonus according to their points totals. The top qualifier, presumably in consultation with his financial adviser, will pick from 15 investments. These include a fully paid life insurance policy with a face value of £85,100, shares, bonds, diamonds, gold, silver, an antique car or coins, or—for those more inclined to gamble—a thoroughbred yearling, an investment in a prospective oil well (drilling costs included), a holiday in Monte Carlo complete with £7,250 in casino chips, or tickets in the Irish Sweepstakes.

The second highest qualifier will choose from the remaining 14 investments—and so on, down the list. All this is merely additional bait for players who will also be lavishly rewarded in terms of prize money. The whole business seems, and is, bizarre. But it takes more than prize money to persuade the celebrities to do their stuff: and the bonus system, as Mark Cox was pointing out yesterday, is more equitable than guarantees or "appearance money".



Poised partners: experience on its toes as Smith and Lutz win a three-hour match.

Bonuses have so far taken the form of cash uncluttered by trimmings. Lamar Hunt, director of WCT, said yesterday: "It's important in life to keep things in perspective and have fun. In a lot of ways the monetary aspects of tennis have been overdone in recent years. We have reached a point where straight dollars and cents don't mean a lot to the players any more." These 1981 bonuses had been chosen for their long-term investment value "except for a few put in for fun".

With the sponsorship of Braniff Airways, WCT are currently providing some fun at Olympia, where the eight teams competing in a £85,100 doubles tournament are in the throes of a round-robin series that will determine the pairings in tomorrow's semi-final round. Yesterday there was some delightfully designed and sharply contested tennis. This was the day—it comes at all tournaments—when everything suddenly "fires".

The proceedings spanning lunch were exclusively American if we include Kevin Curren, of South Africa, whose tennis graduation occurred in Texas. Victor Amaya and Hank Pfister, who have been in harness for only 17 months, beat Marty Riessen and Sherwood Stewart 6—3, 6—4, 3—6, 6—1. The losers had their chances. The first break points of the match were on Pfister's service and, having won the third set, Riessen and Stewart broke Amaya for 1—0 in the fourth. The younger team then took charge, conceding only 12 more points.

The United States champions, Bob Lutz and Stan Smith, took more than three hours to beat Curren and Steve Denton 6—7, 7—6, 4—6, 7—5, 6—3. Lutz and Smith had less trouble with the same opponents in the Wimbledon and United States championships but, this time, deserved much credit for finishing strongly in spite of a decade more weariness in their limbs. Skill and experience were more decisive than any tally of birthdays as Lutz and Smith came back from 1—3 down in the fifth set. They lost only seven more points.

In the evening Heinz Gunthardt and Alexander Mayer won 6—3, 6—4, 7—6 against Wojtek Fibak and Tomas Smid, who had a run of five games from 0—3 to 5—3 in the third set but could do no more. Smid, of course, is still coming down from the clouds after helping Ivan Lendl to win the Davis Cup for Czechoslovakia.

Peter McNamara and Paul McNamee beat Frew McMillan and Christopher Mottram 7—6, 6—4, 6—4.

Battle of young brigade and old guard

Landover, Maryland, Jan 8.—The Colgate Women's Championship have turned into a battle between the young brigade and the old guard when all four top seeds qualified for the second round. The draw should ensure two intriguing matches at the next stage with the clashes between Tracy Austin, of America and Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia, and of old rivals, Chris Lloyd and Martina Navratilova.

Miss Mandlikova reached the second round with a 7—5, 6—3 win over Andrea Jaeger, the 15-year-old American, while Miss Austin needed just 65 minutes to dispose of Virginia Ruzici of Romania, 6—0, 6—3.

Mrs Lloyd, the United States Open champion, capitalized on Pam Shriver's mistakes to win 6—4, 6—2 while Miss Navratilova, now based in the United States, had an equally comfortable 6—2, 6—4 victory over Wendy Turnbull, of Australia. The tournament brings together the top players in the 1980 grand prix points standings and Miss Mandlikova, aged 18, will be looking to continue her remarkable run of recent months.

She was runner-up to Mrs Lloyd in the U.S. Open and has won four of her last six tournaments, amassing £153,600. She started shakily last night and dropped her serve in the opening game of the match with three double faults. But after capturing Miss Jaeger's serve in the sixth game she was always in control.

After squandering two set points at 5—4 Miss Mandlikova made no mistake two games later and secured the first set with some thrilling play. Miss Jaeger was always behind in the second set after dropping her serve in the first game. Although she broke back to trail 4—3, she surrendered her service to Miss Mandlikova in the next game. Miss Jaeger was quick to point out that losing her first match had not put her out of the tournament. She noted that Mrs Lloyd lost to Miss Austin in the opening round last year but still reached the semi-final round.

Miss Navratilova required only an hour and 13 minutes to dispose of Miss Turnbull, who was guilty of 44 unforced errors and six double faults. In the first set Miss Navratilova won five consecutive games for a 5—1 lead and then clinched the set on her own service. Miss Turnbull had won their last two encounters but rarely got her service going today. "I'm moving about court better and feeling more confident," Miss Navratilova said.

Mrs Lloyd had not been in competition since late October but, although she double-faulted four times, she played her usual steady game. Miss Shriver complained afterwards: "Nothing is easy against her."

Miss Navratilova, the women's leading money-winner, won $55,000 more than John McEnroe, the top men's player, in 1980 worldwide tennis earnings, the United States Tennis Association reported in New York today. She won $657,400 and McEnroe $602,383.

ADELAIDE: South Australian open championships, second round (Australian unless stated): B. Drewett beat R. Case, 6—3, 6—4; M. Edmondson beat G. Holroyd (US), 2—6, 6—1, 6—2; J. Fitzgerald beat D. Collings, 6—4, 7—6.

AUCKLAND: Men's singles, second round (US unless stated): T. Wilkison beat L. Stefanki, 7—6, 6—3; F. Taygan beat M. Lewis (NZ), 6—0, 6—3; W. Martin beat W. Maze, 7—5, 6—3; R. Hightower beat J. Simpson (NZ), 6—4, 2—6, 9—7; W. Scanlon beat M. Estep, 6—0, 6—3; C. Mayotte beat R. Crealy (Australia), 6—3, 7—6; R. Simpson (NZ) beat J. Lapidus, 5—7, 7—6, 6—4; O. Parun (NZ) beat A. Graham, 6—1, 6—3. Women's singles, quarter-final round: J. Peters (Australia) beat J. Perkinson (NZ), 7—5, 7—6; C. Newton (NZ) beat R. Seeman (NZ), 6—2, 7—6.

McEnroe finds himself pushed to limit

Chicago, Jan 8.—John McEnroe was pushed to the limit by Eliot Teltscher in a 350,000-dollar invitational tennis tournament last night. McEnroe scraped home 5—7, 6—3, 7—6 against the 21-year-old Californian, listed 10th in the 1980 world rankings.

McEnroe, number two behind Borg, clinched the tie-breaker 7—5 to finish off a match in which he frequently argued with the umpire and line judges and was jeered and slow-handclapped by spectators. He was given a public warning for unsportsmanlike conduct after he slammed a ball into the partisan crowd at Chicago's new $25m Rosemont Horizon Stadium. McEnroe, 21, said later he was annoyed because some spectators clapped when he missed his first service. He also complained about being foot-faulted several times. "I just don't foot-fault that many times in a match," McEnroe grumbled.

Jimmy Connors said he still had his sights set on regaining his top ranking after beating South Africa's Johan Kriek 7—5, 6—1.

Kriek, the only non-American in the field, looked like he might have Connor's measure in the first set. He led 4—3 and had Connors love—40 down on his service. But the American saved the game with some daring strokes

RESULTS: J. McEnroe beat E. Teltscher 5—7, 6—3, 7—6; J. Connors beat J. Kriek (SA) 7—5, 6—1. R. Tanner beat H. Solomon 6—3, 5—4; V. Gerulaitis beat P. Fleming 7—6, 3—6, 6—2.

Haworth loses edge as an injury makes itself felt

By Lewine Mair

As a scoreline of 6—1, 5—7, 8—6 would suggest, Paul Heath, the number one seed, was given something of a fright in the quarter final round of the Prudential junior covered courts championships at Queen's Club (London) yesterday.

Against Andrew Castle, of Somerset, Heath started well enough, but as Castle found his rhythm, so the favourite began to make all manner of mistakes. After losing the second set, Heath let slip three successive games at the start of the third and, though he won the fourth game, was soon 1—4 behind.

At this point it appeared to dawn on him that he could not afford to waste any more time and, tightening up his game accordingly, he did just enough to scrape into the semi-final. This was Heath's second close match of the week. Nigel Beedham, of Derbyshire, chased him all the way on Wednesday.

His opponent today is David Felgate, of Essex, while in the other half of the draw, Stuart Bale, of Middlesex, meets Nick Fulwood, the second seed. Bale was involved in a three-set match yesterday with Craig Haworth, the third seed. Haworth appeared to have the edge, but as the effect of a cortisone injection began to wear off and a torn shoulder muscle started to make itself felt he had trouble serving and smashing. Indeed, he was later advised by his doctor to pull out of the doubles in which he and Heath were the number one seeds.

Tim Pyatt, of Warwickshire, was 5—4 and 40—0 up on Fulwood in the first set but lost the set point and with it his confidence. Within minutes, Fulwood had the match sewn up, winning 7—5, 6—0.

Elizabeth Jones, the number one seed among the girls, did not lose a game in her quarter final match with Jo Harris. Miss Jones may come across as sullen on court but she is eminently watchable. She was hitting some screaming forehands yesterday and was quick to make the most of her opponent's relatively weak service.

A game which caught the eye of Sue Barker, Britain's Wightman Cup player, was that involving Catherine Berry, of Yorkshire, and Sally Reeves, of Kent. Miss Barker practised with Miss Berry at a recent LTA training session at Bisham Abbey and was much impressed by her work rate. A small but agile competitor, Miss Berry hit the ball early and hard, and she generally gave Miss Reeves far more trouble than had been anticipated.

Miss Reeves's match today is with Shelley Walpole who, at 15 years 3 months, is the youngest semi-finalist.

BOYS SINGLES: Quarter-final round: D. Felgate beat D. Shaw, 6—4, 6—1; S. Bale beat C. Haworth, 3—6, 6—4, 7—5; P. Heath beat A. Castle, 6—1, 5—7, 8—6; N. Fulwood beat T. Pyatt, 7—5, 6—0.

GIRLS SINGLES: Quarter-final round: E. Jones beat J. Harris, 6—0, 6—0; A. Brown beat S. Gomer, 6—4, 4—6, 6—3; S. Reeves beat C. Berry, 3—6, 6—0, 6—4; S. Walpole beat P. Yates, 6—4, 6—3.

Britain confirm cup fixtures with Russians

Britain, due to play Russia twice this month in the King's Cup European indoor championship, will fulfil both fixtures, the team manager, Paul Hutchins, said yesterday.

Mr Hutchins, who takes his side to Moscow for the first of the two matches on January 18—the home leg is at Bournemouth on January 29—was replying to a comment made by the British number one, Christopher "Buster" Mottram, who said on television on Wednesday that the Lawn Tennis Association should refuse to play in the competition against the Soviet Union.

Mr Hutchins said: "Not one player has mentioned to me that he does not want to play against the Russians, either in Moscow or at home. If any of them have any thoughts on the matter they had better come and talk to be about it pretty quickly.

"In any case it really does not affect Mottram, because at the time we are playing both matches against the Russians he has other commitments in the United States. Personally, my own view is that if the Olympic boycott could not solve the Afghanistan problem, we are not going to do it

When Mr Hutchins named his party for Britain's eight King's Cup matches, which begin against Hungary in Birmingham on Sunday night, he made it clear that because of his grand prix involvements, Mottram would be available for only three of them.

Rugby Union

Christmas form provides a new year gift of cap for Nicholas

By Gerald Davies

The Welsh team to play England in Cardiff on January 17, announced yesterday, includes three new internationals, as well as three other changes at scrum half and lock, and one positional change on the wing from the team which lost 23—3 to New Zealand in November. As was expected, Ian Stephens (Bridgend) comes in at loose head prop instead of Clive Williams; Rhodri Lewis (South Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education) takes over Paul Ringer's position at flanker and, on the wing, David Nicholas (Llanelli) is chosen.

With Clive Williams unable to recapture his form of last season, which carried him through to four international appearances with the Lions in South Africa, it was widely anticipated that Stephens would come in. Lewis, a relative newcomer, has shown steady progress during this season and on the occasions he is free from his college commitments, has appeared for the Cardiff club this year.

Both Stephens and Lewis went on Wales's short tour to North America in the summer and Stephens, while on that tour, was called to South Africa as a replacement for the injury-struck Lions. Even though Ringer has now retired, he was not expected to hold his place.

The surprise choice is the inclusion of the 25-year-old Nicholas on the left wing. Although he has had a highly successful return to the game after a lay-off of 20 months due to a knee ligament injury, he did not seem to be featuring in the selectors' plans. In the match which was played last Sunday as part of the training weekend, he did not play at any stage in the probable teams. He may not be entirely match-fit but his performances for his club over the Christmas period earned him a place.

Robert Ackerman, who played on the left wing against New Zealand, now moves over to the right. J. P. R. Williams wins his 54th cap and will become the record Welsh cap holder, one ahead of Gareth Edwards, while Geoff Wheel is restored to the second row for his 27th cap instead of the now-retired Derek Quinnell.

Both Brynmor Williams, at scrum half, and Clive Davis, at lock, gained their first caps on Wales's tour to Australia in 1978. The former played in the first international at Brisbane and the latter, when there were a number of injuries which precluded players from selection, played in the final game at Sydney. Alan Martin's form this year has been inconsistent and he is dropped one short of the Welsh record for a lock, which he shares with Brian Price. Both the new players will be wishing for happier circumstances for the occasion of their second caps.

Of the other absentees, who played against New Zealand, Elgan Rees damaged his Achilles tendon in that match and is out for the season, hence Ackerman's switch of wings. Terry Holmes, the Cardiff scrum half, damaged a shoulder in a club game with London Welsh last month and has not yet recovered fitness.

This team will contain a strong scrummaging unit. There is a school of thought, however, which believes that Squire should have been picked at No 8, in which position he has performed at the highest level with the Lions: He would be better suited lending his strength and power to control the ball at the base of the scrum which would then release the faster man, Gareth Williams, on a roving commission about the field.

Both of them, particularly Williams, are adept at the back of the lineout and their expertise in this department may be much needed. Davis, although he had a profitable afternoon on Sunday and was promoted to the Probables in the last part of the match, is not as tall as Martin, and will have his ability put to the test in the middle of the lineout against Colclough. Overall, it does not seem to be a team capable of an expansive game, but at least there is a better prospect of that with Nicholas present to share the load with Ackerman.

TEAM: J. P. R. Williams (Bridgend); R. A. Ackerman (Newport), D. S. Richards (Swansea), S. P. Fenwick (Bridgend, captain), D. Nicholas (Llanelli); W. G. Davies (Cardiff), D. B. Williams (Swansea); I. Stephens (Bridgend), A. J. Phillips (Cardiff), G. Price (Pontypool), C. E. Davis (Newbridge), G. A. D. Wheel (Swansea), J. R. Lewis (SGIHE and Cardiff), G. P. Williams (Bridgend), J. Squire (Pontypool). Replacements to be announced on Sunday.

Table tennis

Sealink lose Potton and title hopes droop

By Richard Streeton

English table tennis is to lose another leading player to the continent. Robert Potton, ranked number three and the most improved competitor in the country this season, is to join the Dutch club, Niccon Cameras, whose parent firm in Eindhoven have found him a lucrative sports promotion job. Potton, of Plaistow, East London, has been unemployed since being made redundant from a clerical job last September, and had no option but to accept.

Potton's contract will stipulate he is available for England international matches but he will not often be seen in domestic events. Sealink Milton Keynes, his national league club, had hoped Potton could continue to represent them on occasions but the Dutch association bar players from competing for two clubs. A similar rule operates in West Germany where the majority of the English players now abroad compete, including Desmond Douglas and John Hilton.

Sealink have put a £1,500 transfer fee on Potton, a sum that is roughly half what it might have been if Sealink's league title hopes had not been dented last weekend when they went down 5—4, unexpectedly, to Macleans Maidenhead. European clubs have always been unwilling to pay transfer fees for English players and Potton is expected to have to find the money himself. The uncertainty over Potton's future during the busy Christmas fixtures left the team unsettled and had a part in some inconsistent results, according to Brian Ashton, the Sealink manager.

Macleans, who beat Sealink 6—3 earlier this winter, are the first club to complete the double against the champions in the league's two-year history. Sealink were ahead 3—1 and again 4—2 but in the final rubber Philip Bradbury beat Robert Tuckett 19—21, 21—16, 21—16. Potton was unbeaten but Douglas Johnson, the England number seven, lost both his games. Bradbury, a 16-year-old from Aylesbury, originally had connexions with Ellenborough. He has recently been promoted to number three in the junior rankings and lately has had several good results.

Soham, in contrast, have emerged as clear favourites to win the league when it resumes on January 25 following wins against Sealink, Macleans and Unity over the holiday period.

PREMIER DIVISION	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Soham	8	7	1	51	21	14
Ellenborough	9	7	2	48	33	14
Sealink Milton K	9	6	3	57	24	12
Macleans Maidenhd	9	5	4	43	38	10
Ormesby	9	4	5	43	39	8
Fellows Cranleigh	9	4	5	52	49	8
Unity	9	2	7	25	56	4
Dunlop Sprts B'hm	8	0	8	17	55	0

SECOND DIVISION SOUTH	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Seagulls	8	6	2	49	23	12
Generation 11	8	6	2	44	28	13
Bristol Cashmans	7	5	2	42	31	10
St Neots	8	5	3	42	30	10
March	8	3	5	33	40	6
Gunnersbury Triangle	8	2	6	29	45	4
Prudential Ibis	7	0	7	5	58	0

SECOND DIVISION NORTH	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
City of Newcastle	9	9	0	68	18	18
Salford Select	9	8	1	59	32	16
Norton	9	6	3	51	30	12
Tarmac Wolverhptn	9	5	4	44	37	10
Ormesby 11	9	4	5	36	46	8
Stockton Select	9	2	7	34	57	4
South West Durham	9	1	8	24	57	2
Billingham Synthonia	9	1	8	19	62	2

Cricket

Chappell wrecks Indians with bowling and batting

From Dilip Rao
Sydney, Jan 8

Australia beat India by nine wickets. For India, beaten three days ago at the same venue in the third Test, the margin of today's defeat by the same foe in a one-day international must have been less humiliating than the complete breakdown of their batting.

Asked to bat first in conditions more amenable to bowling, by far, India collapsed for a mere 63, one of the lowest scores ever in a one-day international match. Australia themselves had to play with circumspection to get past this meagre score, which they did within 10 minutes of lunch.

If Australia accomplished this task without any great embarrassment and without suffering the indignity of further outbursts of slow-handclapping as broke out frequently during the opening partnership between Wood and Dyson, it was thanks to Greg Chappell, who has made a mass of runs here this season and who today made an unbeaten 33.

Chappell was prominent in the achievement of this one-sided victory for it was he who had wrecked India's innings by taking five wickets for only 15 runs. It was by no means a unique performance in his career as a bowler for, in 1977, he took five for 20 against England in a one-day international at Edgbaston.

The circumstances which gave the bowlers the upper hand were created by heavy rain yesterday. A lot of damp still lay around and the ball deviated incessantly, both in the air and off the pitch. Chauhan, the first Indian casualty, was aiming to leg when Lillee hit his off and middle stumps.

Roger Binny was caught by Marsh in front of first slip, having followed an out-swinger from Chappell which described the shape of a banana. The Indians might have done better had they realized early that runs were going to be hard for the opposition as well and paced themselves for a low-scoring match.

Gavaskar, their captain, did not have the confidence to go in in his accustomed place at the top of the order. He dropped down to number five, but the change worked to no advantage, either to India or himself. Coming in at 26 for three, Gavaskar stayed to face only six balls, the last of which was a slower ball from Chappell. Gavaskar's eyes were focused on the roof of the Bradman Stand and his bat had gone through its full swing when the ball arrived at his wicket.

What dignity there was in India's innings was achieved by Viswanath, who made 23 from 21 balls and made batting look even easier than Chappell was to do later.

INDIA

C. Chauhan b Lillee	2
R. Binny, c Marsh, b G. Chappell	15
D. Vengsarkar, c Marsh, b Pascoe	3
G. Viswanath, c Marsh, b Hogg	23
*S. Gavaskar, b G. Chappell	1
Yashpal Sharma, l-b-w, b G. Chappell	6
Kapil Dev, l-b-w, b Hogg	0
S. Kirmani, run out	4
K. Ghavri, c Marsh, b G. Chappell	1
Y. Singh, not out	0
D. Doshi, b G. Chappell	2
Extras (lb 3, w 1, nb 1)	5
TOTAL	63

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—2, 2—23, 3—26, 4—32, 5—50, 6—54, 7—58, 8—60, 9—61.

BOWLING: Lillee, 5—2—3—1; Hogg, 7—2—14—2; G. Chappell 9.5—5—15—5; Pascoe, 4—0—26—1.

AUSTRALIA

J. Dyson, not out	13
G. Wood, c Binny, b Kapil Dev	11
*G. Chappell, not out	33
Extras (lb 3, w 1, n-b 3)	7
TOTAL (one wkt)	64

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—18.

K. Hughes, A. Border, D. Walters, T. Chappell, R. Marsh, D. Lillee, L. Pascoe, R. Hogg did not bat

BOWLING: Kapil Dev, 9—5—15—1; Ghavri, 4—0—14—0; Singh, 4—1—9—0; Doshi, 1—0—6—0; Binny, 3—1—15—0.

New Zealanders in hurry

Geelong (Victoria), Jan 8.—The New Zealanders took less than two hours to complete a nine-wicket win over Geelong and Districts today. Any hopes the home team had of making the tourists work for their victory faded this morning when they lost their last three second innings wickets for only six runs!

The tourists, set 71, won in 68 minutes. Geelong's only success came at 52, when Bruce Edgar was caught off Meek for 29. Paul McEwan made an unbeaten 42 out of 73 for one.

GEELONG: First Innings 306 for 9 dec (P. Oxlade 95 retired hurt, G. Ward 51 not out).

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 319 for 7 dec (J. Parker 135; F. Meek 4—95).

GEELONG: Second Innings

R. Whitton, b McEwan	23
C. Lynch, run out	21
M. Soeckis, b Cairns	4
G. Anderton, not out	19
R. Button, run out	4
G. Ward, c McEwan, b Cairns	0
F. Meek, b Cairns	0
R. Morgan, b Cairns	4
L. Greagan, c Howarth, b Bracewell	5
C. Corstorphin, b Hadlee	1
Extras (lb 1, b 2, nb 1)	4
Total	83

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—30, 2—47, 3—51, 4—56, 5—64, 6—66, 7—72, 8—82, 9—83.

BOWLING: Snedden, 6—1—18—0; Chatfield, 6—0—15—0; McEwan, 8—3—18—1; Cairns, 11—1—17—4; Bracewell, 4—2—6—1; Hadlee, 1.2—0—5—1.

NEW ZEALAND: Second Innings

B. Edgar, c Ward, b Meek	29
P. McEwan, not out	42
G. Howarth, not out	0
Extras (w 1, lb 1)	2
Total (1 wkt)	73

J. M. Parker, W. K. Lees, I. D. S. Smith, R. J. Hadlee, B. L. Cairns, J. G. Bracewell, M. C. Snedden and E. J. Chatfield did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—55.

BOWLING: Corstorphin, 5—0—19—0; Greagan, 6—1—22—0; Morgan, 5—1—24—0; Meek, 3.1—1—6—1.—Reuter.

England win bonus

The England team will be given a bonus of £1,750 for every Test match they win in the West Indies. The money has been put up by Cornhill Insurance. Cornhill will also make three awards of £400 each for outstanding individual tour performances.

Warwickshire have given their manager, David Brown, a new three-year contract. Last season, the former England fast bowler's first in the job, Warwickshire won the John Player League to gain their first success in limited-overs cricket for 12 years.

COLOMBO: Under-20 international: Sri Lanka 247 for 9 declared and 164 for 4 declared; India 109 and 209 for 6. Match drawn.

ADELAIDE: Sheffield Shield: South Australia 171 (T. Alderman 4 for 45, M. Malone 4 for 68); Western Australia 29 for no wicket.

For the record

Badminton

WATFORD: English junior championships: Boys' singles: quarter final round: S. Butler beat G. Dixon, 15—7, 15—6; C. Dobson beat G. Milton, 15—10, 15—8; A. Wood beat H. Elsegood, 15—1, 5—15, 15—9; D. Taylor beat A. Salvidge, 15—5, 15—4. Girls' singles: quarter final round: M. Leeves beat J. Edwards 11—4, 11—0; F. Elliott beat W. Massam, 11—5, 11—7; S. Leeves beat S. Morrice, 11—0, 11—3; W. Poulton beat G. Gowers, 11—8, 11—3.

Ice Hockey

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Pittsburgh Penguins 7, New York Islanders 3; Buffalo Sabres 5, Quebec Nordiques 1; Vancouver Canucks 1, Minnesota North Stars 1; Winnipeg Jets 8, Toronto Maple Leafs 2; Chicago Black Hawks 6, Colorado Rockies 2; Edmonton Oilers 6, Washington Capitals 3; Los Angeles Kings 5, Hartford Whalers 3.

Basketball

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION: Indiana Pacers 112, New Jersey Nets 103; Boston Celtics 108, Phoenix Suns 90; Philadelphia 76-ers 135, San Antonio Spurs 102; Kansas City Kings 113, Houston Rockets 108; Utah Jazz 121, Denver Nuggets 117; Seattle Supersonics 99, Detroit Pistons 94; Dallas Mavericks 111, Golden State Warriors 109.

Yachting

PERTH: Australian Hornet championship, third race: 1, Drummore (G. Lucas, Australia); 2, Equally Suspect (N. Smithers, GB); 3, Piece of Cake (D. Mellor, GB).

Athletics

The frantic race to get into the London marathon

By Michael Coleman

Nobody even dared imagine it would turn out like this. Seventeen thousand people have sent written requests for entry forms for the Gillette London Marathon race on March 29, a demand beyond anything experienced before in this country for a sports event.

Conceived only a few months ago, the yet-to-be born London infant is already challenging long-established North American classics, like the Boston marathon three weeks later. At this rate of progress, the London may rank as important as the New York City, on which it is modelled—after all, only 72 finished the first marathon there, though this had swollen to 12,000 in the eleventh version of the race last October.

Over this weekend at County Hall, Westminster, GLC staff will be stuffing 17,000 envelopes with the entry forms proper which on Monday, in the presence of the more than satisfied Sir Horace Cutler, council leader, whose pet project this is, will be whisked away to the GPO. Press photographers have been invited to witness the ceremony.

It will then be a matter of first come, first served for the police are only allowing 7,000 to toe the line on the day. The first 5,500 forms returned from the British Isles (each with a £3 entry fee) and the first 1,500 from abroad ($15) will be accepted. A small élite group of invited marathoners need not apply.

Which means that up to 10,000 long-distance aspirants could be rejected. Which itself means frantic efforts by all concerned to get those forms back to County Hall as soon as possible—a race before the race with the adrenalin at full flow, especially among those who made the mistake of sticking a second class stamp on the reply envelope. From Tuesday on, County Hall might well undergo a minor siege.

As an example, one recent convert to running, Lawrence Brampton, who is 36, intends dashing to County Hall in his minicab "or legging it there if the entry form comes just before a training stint". Others who have been pounding the roads all winter after dark will not be far behind him.

Hundreds of applications have arrived from Ireland ("It looks as if they're opening the doors and tipping them out" joked a hard-pressed Derrick Pollard, GLC sports services manager whose small staff are on the brink of being driven marathon mad.) The United States had 800 applicants in, quick as a flash with Jordan, Kenya, South Africa, Hongkong, Canada, New Zealand, Singapore and the Channel Islands not slow either. Only Portugal and Austria are missing from West Europe so far.

What the frustrated 10,000 will do instead on the day they have been peaking for is thought-provoking. Those who can tear themselves away from the spectacle of watching others suffer, might venture to Redruth, in Cornwall where the fifth Duchy Marathon is on. "We can assure them of a true Cornish welcome and an enjoyable weekend" the organizers, more than a little vexed over the dates clash., told *Athletics Weekly*.

To gather ideas, a group from the London Marathon committee, including Chris Brasher, its director, John Disley, vice-chairman of the Sports Council and Derrick Pollard went to help out in the last New York race, working seven days round the clock. Disley, steeplechase bronze medal winner at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games also ran, recording an excellent 2hr 45min 58sec for a 51-year-old. Brasher, who beat Disley for the gold in Melbourne, only watched this time in New York, to his later regret but will make amends on March 29.

The vital ingredient the Gillette race now needs is atomsphere, not easily obtainable with a 9 am start on a Sunday in Greenwich. The leading runners will be going past Big Ben at 11 o'clock with the rear coming by about 1.30. All the boroughs along the way—Greenwich, Southwark, Lambeth, Tower Hamlets and the Cities of London and Westminster—have been invited to participate and will, among other things, be manning the feeding stations placed at each two miles.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Avoriaz	160	170	Good	Powder	Good	Fair	-14
High winds, chair lifts closed							
Arosa	135	160	Good	Varied	Good	Cold	-15
Top runs closed							
Andermatt	150	300	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-12
Top runs still closed							
Gridelwald	70	250	—	—	—	—	—
Excellent skiing conditions							
Isola 2000	20	50	Worn	Crust	Poor	Fine	-3
All pistes very worn							
La Plagne	135	175	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-13
Good skiing conditions							
Mürren	160	250	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-10
Good skiing conditions							
Seefeld	100	180	Good	Powder	Good	Cold	-9
New snow on good base							
Tignes	125	290	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-9
Very good skiing conditions							
Wildschoenau	140	190	Good	Powder	Good	Fine	-4
Ideal skiing conditions							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports were received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
SWITZERLAND					
Adelboden	70	150	Pwdr	—	-18
Arosa	135	160	Pwdr	—	-17
Braunwald	150	200	Pwdr	—	-15
Champery	50	100	Pwdr	—	[illegible]
Chateau d'Oex	80	150	Pwdr	—	-12
Davos	120	230	Pwdr	—	-21
Disentis	110	200	Pwdr	—	-12
Engelberg	100	150	Pwdr	—	-10
Grindelwald	80	230	Pwdr	—	-12
Gstaad	80	150	Pwdr	—	-11
Kandersteg	130	250	Pwdr	—	-10
Klosters	[illegible]	250	Pwdr	—	-10
Laax-Flims	120	310	Pwdr	—	-9
Lenk	80	150	Pwdr	—	-15
Lenzerheide	120	180	Pwdr	—	-12
Les Diablerets	80	150	Pwdr	—	-13
Leysin	80	150	Pwdr	—	-12
Montana	150	220	Pwdr	—	-14
Mürren	150	120	Pwdr	—	-14
St Cergue	90	120	Pwdr	—	-6
St Moritz	40	90	Pwdr	—	-13
Unterwasser	120	200	Pwdr	—	-11
Verbier	60	160	Pwdr	—	-17
Villars	120	200	Pwdr	—	-5
Wengen	70	230	Pwdr	—	-12
Zermatt	70	150	Pwdr	—	-12
FRANCE					
Chamonix	70	80	—	—	—
Flaine	175	280	—	—	—
La Clusaz	100	200	—	—	—
Les Arcs	[illegible]	200	—	—	—
Les Deux Alpes	70	280	—	—	—
Les Gets	60	140	—	—	—
Les Menuires	100	210	—	—	—
Megève	60	180	—	—	—
Meribel	60	200	—	—	—
Morzine	60	250	—	—	—
St Gervais	[illegible]	170	—	—	—
Tignes	125	290	—	—	—
GERMANY					
Berchtesgaden	80	150	Pwdr	—	-11
Garmisch	90	140	Pwdr	—	-9
Hindelang	110	150	Pwdr	—	-14
Kleinwalsertal	180	230	Pwdr	—	-14
Mittenwald	130	150	Pwdr	—	-15
Oberammergau	130	160	Pwdr	—	-11
Oberstaufen	130	150	Pwdr	—	-10
Oberstdorf	130	270	Pwdr	—	-12

Skiing

COURMAYEUR: British junior Alpine championship slalom: 1, M. Blyth 91.28 seconds; 2, M. Jones 94.47; 3, J. Becket 97.13

Nordic skiing

NESSELWANG (West Germany): Combined meeting: 1, Norway 1,261.96 pts; 2, Finland 1,265.75; 3, East Germany 1,319.80.

Golf

Prize money for Open stays at £200,000

Prize money for this year's 110th Open golf championship at Royal St George's, Sandwich, will be £200,000, the same as at Muirfield last summer. The winner will receive £25,000, the runner-up £17,500 and the third and fourth placed men £13,500 and £10,000 respectively.

Last year prize money was increased by £45,000, maintaining the steady rise in recent years. Just 13 years ago Gary Player collected £3,000 for winning at Carnoustie and in 1977 Tom Watson, the current holder, became the first to win £10,000 when he triumphed at Turnberry.

Changes have been announced in the regional and final qualifying competitions and the list of players exempted from qualifying. Wilderness will become the seventh course to be used for regional qualifying, while North Foreland has been added to the three other venues for the final qualifying stage.

The field for the Open proper is restricted to 153, subject to entries being received from the five Open champions who won their titles immediately before 1971, but who would not have otherwise been granted exemption. The five are Tony Jacklin, Roberto de Vicenzo, Peter Thomson, Bob Charles and Arnold Palmer. Thomson did not take part at Muirfield last year and Palmer has announced that he would probably not be competing again.

Tatum, beaten but undismayed, will return for Putter

By Peter Ryde

Conditions could hardly have been easier for the opening day of the President's Putter at Rye yesterday. Apart from the meagre amount of sun, the weather could not be faulted. Even Frank Tatum, of California, beaten for the second time in the first round, remained undismayed. He reckoned he would be back another year and will be competing to the end in the subsidiary event this week.

He was beaten by Martin Yates, a semi-finalist last year, losing his chance on the greens in a way his opponent will well have understood. Three times Tatum took three putts with a chance to win the hole. The last time, at the 12th, was specially damaging, for his second had been played with all the cunning of local knowledge, a two-iron held up to the right half of the green.

He seriously misjudged his second at the Sea Hole, but Yates holed for a birdie there and went two up at the 14th. Tatum reduced the gap to one at the 15th, but his brave putt to square the match at the 16th just screwed out. Fate had had her offers spurned and was not in a forgiving mood.

Stuart Melville, the holder, and this year's Cambridge captain, was hunted hard by John Behrend, but his polished short game came to his rescue. Behrend, after winning the seventh in two and the eighth to square the match, got only a half out of another birdie at the ninth and after losing the 11th to a birdie, missed a holeable putt for a half at the 12th.

Another Royal Liverpudlian, Roger Robinson, fared better against this year's Oxford captain, Paul Vickers, extricating himself at the 19th after being two down with five to play. Winning three holes in a row, Robinson came to the 18th one up, but had to go to extra holes after leaving his second on the clubhouse roof, a position which, unlike the distant past, is now, I understand, out of bounds.

The second quarter, in which both those winners find themselves, looks hard going. It contains three former winners in D. M. A. Steel, W. J. Uzielli, and A. D. Swanston. Just below them lurks Richard Hurst, who must also be counted a good prospect. He meets Jamie Warman this morning, renewing over the same course their captain's match in the University centenary year of 1978. Reece, a double winner, found Barclay in sharper form than he is, but Holmes who won the title recently, started his match against Seddon with a rare birdie and went on to the biggest victory of the day.

Philcox felt entitled to tell his opponent Robbins, to whom he lost 5 and 4, that Robbins was a much better player than 30 years ago, for they had been foursome partners in the match against Cambridge. Not many matches went to extra holes, but that between Harker and W. J. Moberly seemed to go on for ever, the long and the short of it being that Moberly won at the 23rd. R. T. Gardiner-Hill also went to extra holes in a match he seemed likely to win, being beaten at the 20th by Dean, the best part of whose game was to be seen at the short holes.

Frank Tatum, lost his chance on the greens.

First round results

[illegible] Stephens, D. A. C. Marr wo J. A. S. Nash; J. Whitmore wo N. A. Thever. J. D. C. Steel wo O. W. Lough; [illegible] 19th P. J. Bathurst; M. Yates 2 and 1 F. D. Tatum; [illegible] D. M. Smythe; [illegible] T. Warman 3 and 2 D. L. Baxter; G. J. Dean 20th R. T. Gardiner-Hill; D. G. Sparrow wo R. H. G. Chapman. R. J. H. Randall 5 and 3 R. P. Lawson; H. A. Biggs wo J. R. Thompson; P. R. Pentecost 1 hole [illegible]; J. H. Bryce wo G. C. E. Carter; F. D. Thyrlel wo J. J. M. Caplan; W. H. Barclay 2 and 1 M. J. Reece; [illegible] 3 and 2 R. G. Amos. D. J. Youngman wo J. R. S. Kent; S. M. Turnbull wo S. D. Rosser; P. A. Cogan wo J. Clennell; [illegible] Scarfield 1 hole A. N. S. Fisher; A. de G. Aldridge-Blake wo G. Leach; R. Robbins 5 and 4 N. R. M. Philcox; N. J. Grant 19th W. G. Morrison. S. P. Thomas 1 hole P. Merry; J. M. Peel 5 and 3 W. J. Ballhache; R. W. Devlin 5 and 3 I. L. Roal; E. G. Lucas wo N. H. F. Copestick; P. B. K. Gracey wo P. J. Jenkins; P. F. Gardiner-Hill 6 and 5 V. P. Cooper; S. A. Sharpe 1 hole D. J. Warden; P. J. R. Souster 4 and 3 J. S. Sutherland. M. C. Grint 3 and 2 P. J. R. Welsh; J. P. Turnbull wo J. K. Sanders; R. F. Palmer wo P. J. Barry; M. A. Colenidge 5 and 4 J. W. L. Adams; C. E. Travers wo G. P. Harrison.

Yachting

America's Cup yacht at design stage

By John Nicholls

The first new 12 Metre yacht for the Victory Syndicate—which has challenged for the America's Cup in 1983—is now at the design stage and building will commence in May. Her designer is Edward Dubois, and according to him she will be a moderate boat with no outlandish features.

Johan Valentijn, who designed France III and Australia for last year's challenge, has been involved as a consultant, so the boat ought to be competitive with the best of existing 12 Metres. A second boat, which is probably the one that the syndicate will hope to use for the challenge, will be built in May, 1982.

She will be designed by Ian Howlett, who was responsible for Lionheart, the British challenger last year. By the time he starts work he will have had the benefit of a year's trials with the first new boat, and Lionheart and Australia, which are both now owned by the syndicate.

The idea of a floating home for the 12 Metres and their crews on an ex-cruise ship has now been abandoned. It is thought that the confinement of about 50 people for months on end would have a detrimental effect on morale. The crew will now be housed in conventional shore establishments in either Newport or Nassau, wherever training takes place.

Football

12,000 seat stand to replace Shed

Chelsea yesterday announced plans for a £14 million development at Stamford Bridge. A new 12,000-seat stand will replace the popular Shed terracing. But while Chelsea went heartily into debt over their giant east stand, opened in 1974, the new scheme should not cost the club a penny.

A property consortium will be invited to build a 99,000 square feet office complex on the present forecourt at Stamford Bridge and to return pay for the stand. The deal also provides for an indoor sports centre with a 100 x 50 ft main hall and squash courts for shared use by the club and the local community. A new broad entrance to the stadium will be built below the office block to ease match-day congestion and provide a link-up between all parts of the ground.

Because of planning regulations a block of mansion flats near the current entrance to the ground will have to be demolished if the scheme goes ahead. But a new group of 23 apartments, situated around a landscaped forecourt, will be built above the sports centre. The architects commissioned by the club, Darbourne and Darke, said yesterday: "We feel the whole scheme should benefit the club and local residents."

"The club will get its three-tiered stand, the community will get a sports centre and local residents will benefit from the new tree-lined frontage to Fulham road," they said.

Chelsea view the development as the next stage of the club's 1972 master-plan to make Stamford Bridge an all-seat international stadium. Local residents will be invited to comment on the scheme which is being submitted to Hammersmith Borough Planners. If there are no hitches a start will be made in 1982.

Rich pickings for two Dundee clubs

Dundee's two football teams have reaped the benefits of league and cup success in the mid-season payout to Scotland's 38 senior clubs. The money comes from the pools companies and Bell's, the whisky distillers, sponsors of the League Cup.

From a total of £287,000, almost £50,000 will be shared between Dundee and Dundee United, who contested the League Cup final in their home city last month.

The pools money is paid out as a bonus for points collected so far, £300 per point in the premier division and £250 in the other two divisions. That gave Dundee United £6,300 from their league performances this season and Dundee of the first division, £7,000.

As league cup winners United picked up an additional £22,000, making a total of £28,300, while the runners-up, Dundee, got £14,000 for a total sum of £21,000. Aberdeen's position at the top of the premier division earned them £9,300 purely on accumulation on points.

Today's fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FOURTH DIVISION: Southend United v Darlington; Stockport County v Torquay United.

Ipswich's immediate plans hit by Gates's two-game suspension

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Ipswich Town, who are one point behind Liverpool and Aston Villa and still have two games in hand, were yesterday dealt a blow to their immediate plans when Eric Gates was suspended for two matches. The England international has been playing well of late and was singled out for special praise after his valuable performance against Villa in the FA Cup last Saturday.

Gates, who had passed 20 disciplinary points and was sent off in the league match against Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane last month, will miss the important game against Nottingham Forest at Portman Road tomorrow and the home match against Birmingham City on Tuesday when Ipswich will be anxious to take advantage of one of their games in hand. The only previous match he missed this season was against Birmingham when he was automatically suspended for being sent off at Tottenham.

Bobby Robson, the Ipswich manager attended the FA disciplinary commission hearing in London but neither he nor the player commented. However, last weekend after Gates had his name taken for encroaching within 10 yards of a free kick, Mr Robson expressed the view that his player had been unfortunate with referees' decisions this season, especially at Tottenham when Gates was alleged to have retaliated after being fouled.

The Oldham defender, Paul Futcher, was given a four-match ban by the commission. He was already due to appear before the commission for reaching 20 points when he was sent off in last Saturday's FA Cup-tie at Wimbledon. The FA therefore decided to give him a two-match ban for 20 points, and to double it because the sending off took him past the 30 point mark.

Southend, another club aiming for honours this season, though in the more modest realm of the fourth division, suffered a setback at the commission when one of their midfield players, Stead, was suspended for two games for receiving more than 20 points. Southend lead the division by a clear four points.

A two-games suspension for Young, of Leicester City, also comes at a bad time when the team are dangerously placed near the bottom of the first division and face a difficult home game against West Bromwich Albion tomorrow. Leslie, Wimbledon's leading scorer last season, was banned for two games, as was Peake, a Lincoln City defender.

On a more gratifying note, the week's FA Cup replays spread satisfaction beyond the successful clubs, with two Englishmen and two Scots having much to do with Manchester United's 2—0 victory at Brighton, bringing with it the beguiling prospect of a fourth round tie at Nottingham Forest. Obviously the most satisfied player was Birtles who only returned to the United team in the previous game but was in such good form that he must have impressed the England manager, Ron Greenwood. Birtles scored the second crucial goal after Nicholl's first, and it was well received, being his first for the club since leaving Nottingham Forest for £1,200,000 in October.

If Birtles was relieved, Wilkins was delighted. On making his first senior appearance since a pelvic operation last summer, he impressed with his composure and accuracy of passing and was not the least disturbed by the ferocity of some typical cup-tie tackling. An early return to the England team seems to be indicated because his constructive talents have not been replaced in their midfield.

Although Wilkins left the field early because of cramp in tired leg muscles, the other returning internationals, McQueen and Buchan managed to last until the end and reported no ill effects. Dave Sexton's gamble in bringing all three back for such an important tie was hardly in keeping with the character of a manager reputed to dislike taking risks, but his confidence was amply justified.

Another victim of pelvic strain, Galvin, of Tottenham Hotspur, appeared fully fit when scoring in a 3—1 win over Queen's Park Rangers that gave Spurs a home fourth round tie against Hull City who have not won an away game this season. Galvin's performance was praised by the manager, Keith Burkinshaw, who pointed out that he had played only three reserve games since the operation. With Yorath, Villa and Hughton all likely to be absent, Galvin will have another chance against Birmingham tomorrow.

For Queen's Park Rangers, elimination from the Cup also contained the worry of seeing Flanagan leave the game after only seven minutes with a groin muscle injury that will require up to two months to heal. Flanagan said the injury was caused by a sudden twisting movement, which is the reason for so many of the modern footballer's muscle problems.

An all-Midlands fourth round tie between Coventry and Birmingham came about only when Sunderland conceded an equalising goal to Birmingham in the last two minutes of normal time at Roker Park. Bertschin scrambled the ball over the line and in the first minute of extra time Evans, their substitute got Birmingham's winning goal. A much longer journey, and undoubtedly less profitably, will be Bristol City's reward for beating Derby County 23—0 in a replay at Ashton Gate. Ironically, last season Derby lost 6—2 to Bristol City in the third round. Now Bristol go to Carlisle.

Brazil are back beating the big drum into the final

Montevideo, Jan 8.—Jupp Derwall, the West German coach, defended his team's attitude after they had crashed to a 1—4 defeat against Brazil in the Gold Cup tournament here last night. West Germany went into the match knowing they had no chance of qualifying for the final of the six-nation tournament while Brazil needed to win by better than 2—1 to oust the world champions, Argentina, and qualify to play the host nation, Uruguay, on Saturday.

"We fielded our best players and went out to win if that was at all possible", Mr Derwall, whose team lost both their matches here after arriving with a string of 23 victories, said: "Obviously lack of motivation was a problem for our players, even if only subconsciously".

Italy, Netherlands and West Germany failed to record a victory in the tournament. Mr Derwall repeated his assertion that the results would have been different if the tournament had been played in Europe. "I do not want to play down the remarkable achievements of the three South American teams, but it is certainly possible that results would not have been the same if South American teams had played in Europe at this time of the year", he said.

Brazil's victory surprised even Tele Santana, their coach. "I knew I could build a good Brazilian team, but tonight's performance went higher than I had thought possible", he said.

Hundreds of Brazilian supporters marched and danced the samba in the downtown streets here after their team's triumph. Many Uruguayans joined the celebration, grateful that their hated rivals, Argentina, were out of the competition.

"The Argentines are such pigs and we are sick and tired of hearing them boast about being the world champions and the best in everything," one supporter said. He and dozens of compatriots joined a rhythmic parade that zigzagged down 18th of July Avenue, the capital's main street, to the beat of Brazilian drummers.

Most Uruguayans expected the final to match their young and upcoming team against Argentina, and they were out for blood. Argentine followers here had complained about Uruguayans insulting them, damaging their cars and stealing banners. The Argentine team doubled their security guard at their hotel after a Uruguayan crowd followed them there shouting.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Group one							
Uruguay	2	2	0	0	4	0	4
Italy	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Netherlands	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Group two							
Brazil	2	1	1	0	5	2	3
Argentina	2	1	1	0	3	2	3
West Germany	2	0	0	2	2	6	0

Gennoe joins Palace on a month's loan

Crystal Palace have signed Terry Gennoe, the Southampton goalkeeper, on a month's loan. He is the first arrival at Selhurst Park since Malcolm Allison became manager.

Mr Allison failed in an attempt to sign one goalkeeper, Manchester City's Keith Macrae, and has sold another, John Burridge.

Paul Barron, signed by Mr Allison's predecessor, Terry Venables, for £400,000 from Arsenal in August, has missed four games with a knee injury, and David Fry has been playing in goal.

Gennoe's arrival may be seen by some as a temporary reinforcement, but Gennoe is sure to want to establish himself in the Palace side. He has lost his Southampton first-team place to Peter Wells. He has been on the books of four other clubs. Beginning his career at Bury, he had spells on loan at Blackburn and Leeds before moving to Halifax and then to the Dell. He was in the Southampton side beaten by Nottingham Forest in the League Cup Final in 1979.

Leeds United are interested in Tom Ritchie, Bristol City's 29-year-old Scottish-born striker. Allan Clarke, the Leeds manager, watched Ritchie score when City beat Derby County 2—0 in the FA Cup Replay on Wednesday.

Colchester United yesterday completed the transfer of Trevor Lee, a striker, to Gillingham for a club record fee of £90,000.

Skiing

All downhill and into sunshine for Miss Pröll

From John Hennessy
Pfronten, Jan 8

Cornelia Pröll, of Austria, emerged at last from the shadow of her famous sister, Annemarie (now Mrs Moser), here in the Bavarian Alps today. Or it may be that she has had to wait until now, a week or two away from her 20th birthday, to reach some sort of fulfilment in the wake of her sister's retirement, garlanded with a variety of medals and sustained by lucrative commercial contracts.

Miss Pröll's time for the 2,080-metre course (vertical drop 850 metres) was one minute 19.36 seconds, 0.18 seconds ahead of Doris de Agostini (Switzerland) and 0.39 seconds of Holly Flanders (United States). If there were a team prize, it would belong emphatically to the Americans, with their two Cindys of nautical ring, Nelson and Oak, also in the first six.

Miss Pröll's success was hardly a surprise. She had the best time in both training runs yesterday and was fortified by the memory of a second place last year, her best in the World Cup until today. If any further inspiration were needed it came in the form of a telephone call from her sister this morning. From then it was all, so to speak downhill. She felt strong at the start and sped down with scarcely a hint of anxiety at an average speed of nearly 60 mph, on perfect snow under a belatedly blissful sky.

Miss Agostini is a renowned downhill skier and her high placing was not unexpected, but Miss Flanders surprised even herself. Her previous best placing was fifth, at Arosa last year, and she did only moderately well in training. Nor did she approach today's race with any confidence but, she said afterwards, "I got so mad with myself that the adrenalin began to flow, and that feels like being pushed from behind by a rocket".

The experienced Miss Nelson seemed a confused character, with a flow of commentary afterwards that did not always make much sense. The essence seemed to be that she was happy to see her team develop so strongly, but she felt she was giving too much of herself. "This is an individual sport", she said, "and you can help others only so much before you begin to suffer." Perhaps that may explain why she intends to retire at the end of the season rather than wait for the next world championships, in 1982.

Jana Soltysova, a Czechoslovak favourite of this column, finished ninth, 1.18 seconds behind the winner. This does not call for any apology, but it has to be recorded that she was handicapped by losing the grip of her left stick at the very first gate. There were no British competitors.

Women's downhills: Two women's World Cup downhills will be held at Crans-Montana on January 18 and 19, one of them replacing the downhill at Pfronten which was cancelled because of bad weather.

WORLD CUP: Women's downhill: 1, C. Pröll (Austria) 1:19.36; 2, D. de Agostini (Switzerland) 1:19.54; 3, H. Flanders (US) 1:19.75; 4, E. Peter (Austria) 1:20.05; 5, C. Nelson (US) 1:20.34; 6, C. Oak (US) 1:20.38; 7, I. Epple (WG) 1:20.38; 8, H. Wenzel (Liechtenstein) 1:20.41; 9, J. Soltysova (Czechoslovakia) 1:20.54; 10, C. Klossner (Switzerland) 1:20.61. OVERALL STANDINGS: 1, M.-T. Nadig (Switzerland) 140 pts; 2, P. Pelen (France) 114; 3, F. Serrat (France) 104; 4, I. Epple 81; 5, E. Hess (Switzerland) 80.



Miss Pröll: jumping from beneath her sister's shadow.

Hockey

'Impossible' the way to improve for England

From Sydney Friskin
Karachi, Jan 8

The England team are here on a venture already written off by many as "Mission Impossible". The action will start tomorrow at the Hockey Club of Pakistan with England's match against West Germany, which will usher in the third Champions Trophy tournament, sponsored by Pakistan International Airlines. In the second match of the day Pakistan, the holders, will play Spain, leaving the remaining two of the six teams, The Netherlands and Australia, to oppose each other on Saturday in the round-robin series.

Some have doubted the wisdom of England accepting a late invitation which followed India's withdrawal and the inability of Malaysia to fill the vacancy at short notice. Unpleasant visions have been formed of a young side cast too soon into the international crucible—a view not shared by the England coach, David Whitaker, who believes that a lot of good will come out of the tour.

"If we are beaten", he said, "it will not alter our position in the world, which is seventh. We are at the top of the second division and the only way to improve is to play against the best in the world. The side is fighting fit and our draw against Australia last September has given the lads the necessary incentive."

Colin Whalley, of Lancashire, the new manager, could not have expected his first task to be as demanding as this. But as an international player himself he knows the score. The wounds have healed since West Germany beat England 8—2 at their last meeting in the Brussels quadrangular of 1979; before that England drew twice with the Germans in 1978, 0—0 in the World Cup tournament in Buenos Aires and 1—1 at Hanover in the European Cup. To England's credit is a 2—1 win at Amsterdam in 1977 but in the same year West Germany won 6—3 at Limburg.

The Germans have lost some of their confidence after losing a four-match series in Australia by two matches to one at the end of last year. Everyone knows how devastating the Germans can be when they are on top and how quickly they can fall to pieces when plans go awry at the start. The onus then is on England tomorrow to make the best use of this knowledge and prevent the Germans from seizing the initiative.

The tournament ends on January 16 with what is expected to be its showpiece, the match between Pakistan and West Germany. Pakistan have run into selections problems, their main worry being whom to drop, but they are obviously the favourites. A strong challenge must be expected from Australia and The Netherlands; and Spain, the winners of the silver medal at the Moscow Olympics can always provide a shock or two. As for England there is everything to gain and nothing to lose.

ENGLAND (from): I. C. B. Taylor (Slough), J. A. Hurst (St Albans), D. Craig (Southgate), J. L. Duthie (Southgate), R. D. A. Dodds (Cambridge University), N. Hughes (Wakefield, captain), D. G. Westcott (St Albans), A. J. Wallace (Southgate), M. Precious (Oxford University), S. S. Khehar (Slough), K. S. Bhaura (Hounslow), R. H. Brookeman (Southgate), G. N. Francis (Guildford), R. A. Leman (East Grinstead), M. D. Wilkinson (Neston), C. Rule (Beckenham).

Boxing

Sibson meets Argentine

Tony Sibson, Britain's European middleweight champion, will be back in action at the Albert Hall on January 27 in a 10-round contest against Noberto Cabrera, of Argentina.

Sibson, 22, from Leicester, has a boxing engagement before that, however. Next Wednesday he appears before the British Boxing Board of Control to explain the weight losses he managed just before four of his contests. When he lost the British title to Kevin Finnegan in November, 1979, he shed no less than 10lb on the day of the bout.

Cabrera will be no easy opponent. He has won 26 of his 39 contests and drawn four others. One of his nine defeats was by the current world champion, Marvin Hagler, who stopped him in the eighth round in Monte Carlo in June, 1979.

The main support bout to Sibson will be an eight-rounder between Dave Green and an American, Gary Holmgern. It will be Green's second comeback contest since he was knocked out by Sugar Ray Leonard in a world welterweight title fight. Holmgern has a record of 18 wins and three defeats.

Also over eight rounds Wapping's Jimmy Flint, the number one challenger to British featherweight champion, Pat Cowdell, will meet Paul Keers, from Bradford. In addition there will be three eight-round heavyweight contests: Stan McDermott (East Ham) v Tom Kiely (Brighton); Andy Palmer (Liverpool and Bermondsey) v George Scott (Newcastle); Rudi Pika (Cardiff) v Reg Long (Peterlee).

Rugby League

Warrington in the wars again

Warrington and Leigh have been fined £200 and £100 respectively for a brawl in their match on Boxing Day. A Rugby League spokesman explained that Warrington's fine was doubled because it was the second such incident they had been involved in this season.

Paul Rose, the Hull Kingston Rovers forward, appealed unsuccessfully to have his record transfer fee of £60,000 reduced by the committee, as was Peter Cramp, the Huddersfield winger, who appealed against a fee of £25,000 placed on him.

"Most players had asked to go on the transfer list and the committee's policy is that they must accept the club's valuation of them", a league spokesman said.

Racing

Haydock Park programme

12.45 BOLTON SELLING HURDLE (£1,001: 2m)

1 43100u Boyne Hill, O. O'Neill, 5-11-10 ..... R. Hyett
3 0-10024 Gay Walk, D. Yeoman, 5-11-10 ..... —
5 010000 Katumba (D), B. Richmond, 5-11-10 ..... R. Lamb
6 400010- Yankee Ballad (D), R. Hobson, 5-11-10 ..... D. Shaw 7
8 000-300 Chance Flight, W. Musson, 5-11-4 ..... P. Hobbs
9 0-00 Janatek (B), W. H.-Bass, 5-11-4 ..... S. McNeill
10 0 Miss Falcon, B. Cambidge, 5-11-4 ..... M. Brisbourne
12 000 Red Ragusa, C. Crossley, 5-11-4 ..... R. Crank
13 4 Ribonny, W. Elsey, 5-11-4 ..... A. Flint
14 p0 Wood Farm Boy, P. Hamer, 5-11-4 ..... Mr C. Bridgett
15 300210 Claymore (D), W. Wright, 4-10-9 ..... J. Hansen 7
16 01100 Stansted (D), W. Clay, 4-10-9 ..... N. Clay
17 301010 Wee William (D), M. Bradley, 4-10-9 ..... C. Davies 7
19 0 Bold Treaty, R. Morris, 4-10-3 ..... F. Morris
21 00 Esal Boy, D. Kent, 4-10-3 ..... P. Haynes
22 4 Jezreel, P. Bevan, 4-10-3 ..... T. Wall 7
27 030 Tom Horn, J. Berry, 4-10-3 ..... A. McGlynn 7
28 00 Weston Bay (B), M. Pipe, 4-10-3 ..... R. Atkins

9-2 Gay Walk, 5-1 Ribonny, 6-1 Stansted, Esal Boy, 7-1 Janatek, 8-1 Wee William, Katumba, 10-1 Boyne Hill, 14-1 Claymore, 16-1 others.

1.15 WHITE LODGE HURDLE (Handicap: £1,058: 2½m)

203 130-000 Wait And See (D), F. Rimell, 6-11-8 ..... Mr E. Woods
208 432240 Ellenstad (D), Rex Carter, 6-10-4 ..... Mr S. Richardson 7
209 000020 Lough Street, M. Oliver, 8-10-3 ..... Miss S. Oliver 7
210 p0/3340 Charter Flight, M. H. Easterby, 6-10-3 ..... Mr T. Easterby
211 000012 Hidden Talent, Mrs S. Oliver, 9-10-0 ..... Miss J. Oliver 7
212 040u00 Virginia Drive, A. Rumsey, 9-10-0 ..... Mr M. Castell 7
214 4-3f00p Poppy Fields (B), B. Cambidge, 7-10-0 ..... Mr J. Cambidge 7
215 001-p000 Reikotjme, W. Tinning, 10-10-0 ..... Mrs J. Tinning 7
216 034-040 Irish Prince (B, D), W. Wright, 8-10-0 ..... Miss G. Clarkson 7
217 1000-02 Cambro Boy (C), R. Hobson, 5-10-0 ..... Mr E. McIntyre 7
218 0320p Jimmy Roll, J. S. Turner, 7-10-0 ..... Mr P. Webber
221 440433 Belle Isle Boy, W. Smith, 5-10-0 ..... Mrs A. Gray 7
223 3p-0ff0 Reekie Linn, Mrs P. Rigby, 11-10-0 ..... Mrs P. Rigby 7
226 0pp4/40 Space Boy, H. Gittins, 12-10-0 ..... Miss S. Arkell 7
227 3004004- Transformation, R. Armytage, 12-10-0 ..... Miss M. Armytage 7

9-4 Charter Flight, 7-2 Hidden Talent, 4-1 Wait And See, 7-1 Ellenstad, 10-1 Lough Street, 12-1 Cambro Boy, 14-1 Virginia Drive, 16-1 others.

1.45 GAMEKEEPERS STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £2,326: 2m)

303 1111-24 My Buck (D), M. Dickinson, 9-10-4 ..... T. Carmody
305 1202-14 Casbah (D), T. Forster, 14-10-0 ..... R. F. Davies
306 000020 Bawnogues (C), M. Tate, 10-10-0 ..... C. Smith
307 41p0p4 Netherton (B, CD), M. H. Easterby, 8-10-0 ..... A. Brown
309 40-124u Heronford (C,D), W. Wright, 11-10-0 ..... Mr E. McIntyre 7

5-4 My Buck, 2-1 Casbah, 9-2 Netherton, 8-1 Heronfore, 15-1 Bawnogues.

2.15 VAUX BREWERIES STEEPLECHASE (Qualifier: novices: £1,338: 3m)

404 p-p2f21 Spartan Major, Mrs W. Sykes, 7-11-5 ..... S. Morshead
405 0111-p1 Talon, M. Dickinson, 6-11-5 ..... T. Carmody
414 0f Davey View, G. Fairbairn, 7-11-0 ..... R. Barry
419 01p-2f2 Meadsgrove, T. Usher, 7-11-0 ..... D. Atkins
420 p00 Mystic Match, J. Brockbank, 7-11-0 ..... Mr A. Eubank
421 040 Nasir, C. Crossley, 10-11-0 ..... R. Crank
422 1004-u2 Peaty Sandy, Miss H. Hamilton, 7-11-0 ..... R. Lamb
427 00-u00f Tania's Lad, W. Francis, 7-11-0 ..... A. Taylor

4-5 Talon, 2-1 Peaty Sandy, 6-1 Spartan Major, 10-1 Meadsgrove, 16-1 others.

2.45 BIRCHFIELD HURDLE (Novices: £1,305: 2m)

502 4-00104 Precipienne (D), J. Blundell, 6-12-2 ..... D. Dutton 7
503 010 Tru Mar (D), F. Rimell, 5-12-0 ..... S. Morshead
504 Calibunda, W. Preece, 6-11-9 ..... S. Holland
506 00 Hand Over Fist, R. Whitaker, 6-11-9 ..... A. Bowker
510 40 Rosemary Tile, R. Perkins, 6-11-9 ..... Mr A. Wilson
511 000 Rugged Customer, J. Turner, 6-11-9 ..... Mr P. Webber
512 p Satin Sun, B. Cambidge, 6-11-9 ..... M. Brisbourne
515 Bicton Briar Rose, R. Morris, 5-11-7 ..... F. Morris
516 f3 Copper Tinsell, T. Barnes, 5-11-7 ..... M. Barnes
518 0- Flight Sheet, K. Stone, 5-11-7 ..... C. Tinkler
521 00 It's a Celtic, B. Wilkinson, 5-11-7 ..... —
523 00 Misanfield, M. Oliver, 5-11-7 ..... P. Hobbs
524 Normandy Lad, W. Jenks, 5-11-7 ..... R. F. Davies
526 0 Quite Right, W. Clay, 5-11-7 ..... N. Clay
527 p0f- Rivadon, W. Clay, 5-11-7 ..... M. Elliott 7
531 00- Thornwick Bay, J. Hartley, 5-11-7 ..... P. Tuck
532 p0 Tudor Hansel, E. H. Owen jnr, 5-11-7 ..... R. Wilding 4
535 440100 Be Friendly Too (CD), W. Wright, 4-10-13 ..... C. Hawkins
537 1 North (D), M. Dickinson, 4-10-13 ..... T. Carmody
539 002 Go-It-Alone, J. Barry, 4-10-6 ..... S. Houlker 7
540 2 Governor's Camp, G. Richards, 4-10-6 ..... R. Barry
543 Kelly's Move, J. Berry, 4-10-6 ..... R. Hargreaves 7
546 Strathdearn, W. Francis, 4-10-6 ..... A. Taylor
548 u Welsh Dal, J. Bingham, 4-10-6 ..... G. Margarson 4

5-4 North, 3-1 Governor's Camp, 11-2 Tru Mar, 10-1 Precipienne, 14-1 Copper Tinsell, 16-1 Strathdearn, Be Friendly Too, 20-1 others.

3.15 WARRINGTON HURDLE (Handicap: £1,199: 2m)

602 110-210 Schumann (CD), M. H. Easterby, 6-11-9 ..... A. Brown
604 3-00000 Visconti (D), M. Dickinson, 5-11-4 ..... T. Carmody
607 211p- Rig Force, B. Richmond, 5-11-0 ..... R. Lamb
608 1ff222- Bravo Fellow, J. Fitzgerald, 7-10-13 ..... G. Bradley 7
609 010- Mowry Hill (D), Mrs W. Sykes, 8-10-13 ..... S. Morshead
611 210210 Mendelita (CD), J. Bingham, 5-10-11 ..... G. Margarson 4
613 000234 Benowen (D), R. Fisher, 6-10-9 ..... D. Goulding
614 0000/11 China God (D), W. Francis, 8-10-7 ..... A. Taylor
619 000022 Gay Twenties (D), Rex Carter, 7-10-4 ..... Mr P. Webber
620 034020 Tribal Warlord (D), M. Naughton, 5-10-2 ..... C. Pimlott
621 p00000 Destiny Hill (BD), S. Holland, 10-10-1 ..... R. F. Davies
622 00/0-040 The Flak Bomber, M. Tate, 10-10-0 ..... C. Smith
625 0000-03 Veramente, S. Mellor, 6-10-0 ..... J. Rowe 4
626 204214 Sallys Carouselle (D), P. Bevan, 7-10-0 ..... T. Wall 7
627 240312 Cap Too (D), J. Blundell, 5-10-0 ..... D. Wilkinson 4

4-1 China God, 5-1 Schumann, 6-1 Benowen, 8-1 Visconti, 10-1 Mendelita, 12-1 Brave Fellow, Gay Twenties, 14-1 Rig Force, Sallys Carouselle, 16-1 Cap Too, Veramente, 30-1 others.

Haydock Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

12.45 Esal Boy. 1.15 Wait and See. 1.45 My Buck. 2.15 Talon. 2.45 North. 3.15 Schumann.

Lion-hearted Highway is a curious yellow

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Highway, who caused an upheaval in the Triumph Hurdle market a week ago when he won the Challow Hurdle impressively at Newbury, was sound when he returned home and has remained so since. That was the heartening news from his trainer, David Morley, yesterday.

Morley was touching wood that the back which had troubled Highway in the autumn would not recur as a result of the race because he knew that he had a potentially good horse in his care.

"Definitely the best that I have had in my yard since Calaba" was how he described Highway yesterday. That is praise, because Calaba was a good one. But before he builds his hopes too high, Morley is being realistic in appreciating that this colt, who had a rating of 121 on the flat in Timeform last summer, must brush up his jumping if he is to survive in hurdling.

Morley admitted that Highway sported numerous cuts and bruises on his legs after having treated the hurdles at Newbury with disdain. "It took us two days to get the yellow paint off his knees", Morley said, discussing his horse's flippant attitude to hurdling.

At Newbury, Highway seemed brave as a lion unlike many others, he was undaunted by the obstacles in his path; so much so that he was prepared to kick them out of the way if he so chose. How long he will get away with that attitude remains to be seen.

The next public glimpse of Highway will be at Doncaster on January 31 in the Brewers Hurdle. That should tell us whether he is still as casually brilliant as he was at Newbury or whether experience of hurdling at racing pace has taught him to mend his ways and pick up his knees.

Morley hopes to take charge today of a seven-year-old that he recently bought in France by the name of Don Presto, who run his last two races on the flat at Longchamp. Since he set up on his own in 1973, having spent numerous beneficial years learning the game with Frank Cundell, Morley has done conspicuously well with horses bought in France. One such individual is Havanus, my choice for the Londesborough Handicap Steeplechase at Sandown Park this afternoon.

Explaining his somewhat inept performance in his last race at Plumpton, Morley said the going was atrocious and that Havanus does not like it so soft even though he is a big horse. "I am convinced that two-and-half miles is probably his ideal race, so he should be in his element on both counts at Sandown, where the ground looks like being good", Morley said.

Colonel Christy, who won the race at Plumpton in which Havanus finished fourth, is my selection for the Stanley Novices Handicap Steeplechase. Although still a comparative beginner, this younger brother of Captain Christy boasts commendable form. Abo, the horse he beat by 10 lengths at Plumpton, looked distinctly unlucky not to win his next race at Fontwell Park last Tuesday.

Michael Dickinson's decision to try to win the Gamekeeper Handicap Steeplechase at Haydock Park with My Buck instead of Rathgorman should not go unheeded. And if My Buck wins, Talon and North should complete a treble for the stable by winning the Vaux Breweries Novices Steeplechase (qualifier) and the Birchfield Novices Hurdle respectively.

First and last is still the best

The Somerset trainer, Susan Morris, landed a 70-1 first and last race double with Karlinsky and Mr Moonraker in the two divisions of the Ploughman's Novices' Hurdle at Taunton yesterday. Her only other representative, Sergeant Can, finished second to make her score for the new year three winners and two seconds.

Karlinsky, who cost a small fortune as a yearling in the United States and won as a two-year-old at Leicester and Yarmouth for Henry Cecil, was picked up by Miss Morris at Newmarket in October for only 1,500 guineas.

Both winners were ridden by Martin O'Halloran, whose waiting race landed Mr Moonraker in front on the flat to upset a substantial gamble on Derek Kent's Second Event.

The race was marred before it started when Bineham City reared up in the parade ring, went over backwards, and broke Carl Gray's right leg.

British team for South Africa

Six top British jockeys are to challenge a South African team over an eight-race series at Durban and Germiston next month. They are Willie Carson, Paul Cook, Pat Eddery, Joe Mercer, Lester Piggott and Greville Starkey.

They ride first in four races at Greyville Racecourse, Durban, on February 14. A week later, at Gosforth Park Racecourse, Germiston, the 12 riders meet again over the final four races.

Points will be awarded on a sliding scale from 12 down to one and will be carried forward from Durban. Muis Roberts, South Africa's seven times champion jockey, will head the home team. He will be supported by Freddy Macaskill and Raymond Rhodes from the Transvaal, Garth Pullar from the Cape and Basil Marcus and Robbie Sham from Natal.

Wagering way to a record

Irish racegoers wagered a record £67.65m at meetings in the Republic during 1980. Of this figure, £53.78m was with "on course" bookmakers, and the remainder with the Tote. The Tote's share, though, showed an increase of 16 per cent, compared with only 3.4 per cent with the bookmakers.

The £4m prize money at the 280 meetings held last year in the Republic and Northern Ireland is likely to be topped in 1981. The forecast for the coming year is £4.4m. Total attendances for meetings north and south in 1980 was 1,100,000—equalling the 1978 record.

As a result of a fall in demand for the 20p "on course" Tote tickets, the minimum bet that Irish racegoers will be able to place on the "machine" when the new Flat season opens on March 17 will be 50p.

Gifford gives judgment on injections

After Royal Judgement recorded his fourth win in five outings this season under top weight in Lingfield Park's Weald Handicap Chase yesterday, his trainer, Josh Gifford, criticized the edict concerning the compulsory anti-influenza injection, which must be completed by March 26.

"It affects the older horses more", Gifford said. "They lack that bit of sparkle at home and you don't know how they are going to run until they race. I've now had 28 winners and would have had a lot more but for these injections. It was criminal that we were forced to do it and it would have been better if the date had been April 26 as most of the big races would be over by then."

Royal Judgement was a prime sufferer. After being vaccinated his neck became swollen and he could not get his head down to eat. This progressive eight-year-old returned to score one win after another and Gifford said: "He seemed to come unstuck in the big ones, so we took him pot hunting."

The Faversham farmer, Albert Neaves, reckons he must be near one record with the winners he has trained over 35 years and another with his bargain buys, one of whom, Tower Moss, won the Sevenoaks Novices Chase. Many thought Tower Moss lucky to win at Fontwell Park 10 days earlier, as the narrow leader, Devil's Brig, toppled over at the last. But this time, despite an 11lb advantage, Devil's Brig could only finish fourth.

"I have now had more than 200 successes and I've never trained for anybody but myself. I reckon not many have done that", Neaves said.

Entebbe, ridden by Peter Scudamore, landed the gamble of the day when, after being backed from 20-1 to 9-1, he defeated the favourite, Blue Patrol, in the Southern Counties Handicap Hurdle to give Robert Reynolds his first Lingfield victory at the first attempt. Scudamore followed this up and took his tally to 47 when Great Developer came home five lengths clear of Eledge in the Horley Novices Hurdle (division two).

STATE OF GOING (official): Sandown Park: Good. Haydock Park: Straight, good to soft. Remainder, soft. Tomorrow: Warwick: Heavy.

Sandown Park programme

1.0 METROPOLITAN HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £1,237: 2m)

2 00-301 Lucky Chris (D), I. Dudgeon, 6-11-7 ..... G. McCourt
4 f Hans Brinker, G. Harwood, 6-11-2 ..... M. Perrett 7
5 Killiney Lad, J. Gifford, 7-11-2 ..... R. Champion
10 0 Royal Pine, S. Mellor, 6-11-2 ..... P. Blacker
12 000-0 Topsin, O. Jorgensen, 6-11-2 ..... C. Mann 7
14 40- Ammas, F. Winter, 5-11-0 ..... B. de Haan 4
15 Ballet Dancer, H. Willis, 5-11-0 ..... S. May
16 4040 Bannoran, D. Nicholson, 5-11-0 ..... P. Scudamore
17 0423-0 Concert Hall, G. Lewis, 5-11-0 ..... M. O'Halloran
18 Double Barrel, W. M-Colos, 5-11-0 ..... C. Candy
19 00 Far Bridge, G. Balding, 5-11-0 ..... B. Reilly
21 0 Grecian Sovereign, A. Hide, 5-11-0 ..... J. Barlow
25 Noxal, J. Gifford, 5-11-0 ..... R. Rowe
26 000002 Riflefire (B), Pat Mitchell, 5-11-0 ..... R. G. Hughes
29 Woodhaal Girl, J. Gifford, 5-11-0 ..... G. Enright
30 0 Wula, F. Winter, 5-11-0 ..... J. Francome

9-4 Wula, 3-1 Royal Pine, 9-2 Concert Hall, 6-1 Lucky Chris, 8-1 Hans Brinker, 10-1 Riflefire, 12-1 Bannoran, 20-1 others.

1.30 MOLE CHASE (Handicap: £1,942: 2m 18yd)

1 2-32421 Professor Plum (CD), T. Forster, 8-12-0 ..... Mr T. Thomson-Jones
3 0/f2211 Early Spring (CD), R. Turnell, 11-11-7 ..... A. Turnell
4 440f0u Salad, D. Nicholson, 7-11-3 ..... P. Scudamore
6 0/f-p000 Regent's Choice (CD), A. Wates, 9-10-7 ..... A. Webber

4-9 Early Spring, 7-2 Professor Plum, 12-1 Salad, Regent's Choice.

2.0 LONDESBOROUGH CHASE (Handicap: £1,991: 2m 4f 68yd)

1 1f210u Sweeping Along (CD), J. Gifford, 8-11-10 ..... R. Rowe
2 b0-2430 Nimrody (CD), F. Winter, 10-11-9 ..... J. Francome
3 331-324 Havanus (CD), D. Morley, 9-11-4 ..... B. R. Davies
5 3204-04 Fiord (C), T. Forster, 11-10-9 ..... A. Webber
7 3p-2010 Commandant (CD), G. Balding, 9-10-6 ..... R. Linley
9 rf-2u02 Aukland Jack, R. Armytage, 7-10-0 ..... H. Davies

5-2 Aukland Jack, 3-1 Nimrody, 9-2 Fiord, 6-1 Havanus, 7-1 Sweeping Along, 8-1 Commandant.

2.30 CARDINAL HURDLE (Handicap: £1,488: 2m 5f 75yd)

2 14-01 Cisto, A. Goodwill, 6-11-7 ..... S. Smith Eccles
5 2-02003 Norfolk Arrow (C), J. Gifford, 6-11-5 ..... R. Rowe
6 001-210 Toy Master, F. Winter, 6-11-0 ..... J. Francome
7 140-030 Probable (C), T. Forster, 6-11-0 ..... H. Davies
10 22130-0 Gemini Miss, D. Scott, 9-10-1 ..... B. de Haan 4
12 40f000 Master Ken, M. Haynes, 7-10-10 ..... A. Wright 7
13 83040-0 Lustful Lady, N. Mitchell, 9-10-8 ..... Mr N. Mitchell
14 1/0 New Boo, D. Nugent, 8-10-3 ..... B. Smart
15 2/u0040 Newark, H. O'Neill, 6-10-0 ..... G. Gracey 4
16 440-001 Ghost Writer, F. Walwyn, 14-10-0 ..... R. Pusey 7
17 404041 Quarto, P. Bailey, 6-10-0 ..... B. Reilly

15-8 Cisto, 100-30 Probable, 9-2 Ghost Writer, 6-1 Toy Master, 8-1 Norfolk Arrow, 10-1 Quarto, 12-1 Gemini Miss, 20-1 others.

3.0 STANLEY CHASE (Handicap: Novices: £1,615: 3m 118yd)

3 23-f211 Whistle For Gold, T. Forster, 8-11-8 ..... H. Davies
4 131ff4 Red Cleric, M. Naughton, 7-11-7 ..... C. Grant
5 30-f123 Knockakeo, F. Winter, 7-11-6 ..... J. Francome
6 f2-1000 Moonlight Express, J. Gifford, 8-11-5 ..... R. Champion
7 313f21 Colonel Christy, H. O'Neill, 9-11-2 ..... G. Gracey 4
8 042004 Lucky Call, D. Nicholson, 7-10-11 ..... P. Scudamore
9 0/40-144 Bujoji, R. Ledger, 8-10-10 ..... Mrs N. Ledger 4
12 420-f41 Keengaddy, N. Gaselee, 8-10-8 ..... R. Linley
14 f-03f0 Handsome Prince, P. Cundell, 9-10-6 ..... A. Webber
15 p-04030 Glissando, R. Wise, 8-10-0 ..... R. Rowell
16 p03f30- Pol Black, N. Thomson, 10-10-0 ..... Mr N. Thomson
17 3f43-0b Smab, M. Banks, 7-10-0 ..... G. McCourt
19 0233-03 Super Jas, S. Mellor, 11-10-0 ..... A. Carroll

2-1 Whistle For Gold, 7-2 Knockakeo, 11-2 Colonel Christy, 6-1 Keengaddy, 8-1 Red Cleric, 10-1 Super Jas, 12-1 Lucky Call, 20-1 others.

3.30 METROPOLITAN HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £1,226: 2m)

1 0-02f21 Combs Ditch (D, B), D. Elsworth, 5-11-10 ..... C. Brown
2 0/00-201 Grafty Green (D), D. Dale, 6-11-7 ..... J. McLaughlin 4
5 003-0 African Prince, J. Gifford, 6-11-2 ..... R. Champion
6 002 Busting, R. Turnell, 7-11-2 ..... A. Turnell
7 0000-p Chirunda, N. Thomson, 8-11-2 ..... Mr N. Thomson
8 Falcon's Nest, T. Forster, 6-11-2 ..... Mr T. Thomson-Jones
12 0 Monkey Corners, N. Henderson, 6-11-2 ..... S. Smith Eccles
13 0-03u33 Pretty Hopeful, S. Mellor, 6-11-2 ..... A. Carroll
15 200-0 Restless Shot, J. Webber, 6-11-2 ..... A. Webber
18 0 Swift King, D. Greig, 6-11-2 ..... P. Barton
19 00 Zoro, A. Ingham, 6-11-2 ..... —
20 03230 Admiral Grenville, J. Jenkins, 5-11-0 ..... B. Reilly
22 p- Bill's Olive, R. Ledger, 5-11-0 ..... Miss N. Ledger 4
23 Britannicus, F. Winter, 5-11-0 ..... J. Francome
27 00 Holcombe Rogue, I. Dudgeon, 5-11-0 ..... R. Linley
28 00 Sea Bear, R. Dening, 5-11-0 ..... J. King

7-4 Busting, 4-1 African Prince, 6-1 Grafty Green, 7-1 Pretty Hopeful, 8-1 Combs Ditch, 10-1 Monkey Corners, 12-1 Britannicus, 20-1 others.

Sandown Park selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

1.0 Royal Pine. 1.30 Early Spring. 2.0 Havanus. 2.30 Toy Master. 3.0 Colonel Christy. 3.30 Busting.

Taunton results

12.45 (12.47) PLOUGHMAN'S HURDLE (Div 1: 4-y-o novices: £414: 2m)

KARLINSKY, b c by Rheingold—Sea Pay (Mrs P. Blackburn) 10-7
M. O'Halloran (10-1) 1
Play The Knave ..... A. Webber (6-1) 2
Quazar Light ..... M. Floyd (15-2) 3

TOTE: win, 98p; places, 35p, 22p, 14p. Dual F: £15.36. CSF: £7.32. Miss S. Morris, at Chard. Neck, ½l. Sirenia 5-2 fav. Malza (6-1) 4th. 18 ran.

1.15 (1.16) ROADMEN'S HURDLE (Handicap: £362: 2m)

JULIE EMMA, b m by Farm Walk—Leila (Mrs A. Hodges) 5-11-1 [illegible] 1
Indian [illegible] 2
Falsso [illegible] 3

TOTE: [illegible] 14p. [illegible] Hodges, [illegible] Wild [illegible] Daughter [illegible]

1.45 (1.46) HEDGECUTTERS CHASE (Handicap: £848: 2m 3f)

RICHMEDE, gr g by Runnymede—Scilly Isles (M. Stephens) 8-10-3
M. Coyle (15-8 jt fav) 1
Sergeant Can ..... M. Chilton (16-1) 2
Low Lindeth ..... M. Richards (3-1) 3

TOTE: win, 23p; places, 10p, 16p, 19p. Dual F: 81p. CSF: £3.24. M. Stephens, at Taunton. 7l, 15l. The Baker 15-8 other jt fav. Wild Chorus (9-1) 4th. 8 ran.

2.15 (2.16) DITCHDIGGERS HURDLE (Handicap: £1,035: 3m 1f)

SPIRIT OF DERWENT, br g, by Derwent—Grey Spirit (F. Clegg) [illegible] 1

2.45 (2.46) NORTON FITZWARREN CHASE (Handicap: £1,241: 3m 1f)

LEWIS HOMES, b g, by Harwell—Scrupleosity (Lewis Bros) 7-11-7
P. Warner (7-1) 1
Pucka Fella Mrs J. Hembrow (5-1) 2
Yes Yes Yes J. Darlington (10-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 88p; places, 36p, 14p, 18p. Dual F: £2.82. CSF: £4.19. J. Edwards, at Leominster. 7l, 10l. Three of Diamonds 7-2 fav. Lucky Victory (9-2) 4th. 11 ran.

3.15 (3.19) PLOUGHMANS HURDLE (Div II: 4-y-o novices: £414: 2m)

MR MOONRAKER, b g, by Idiot's Delight—Burlington Belle (Mrs P. Blackburn) 11-0
M. O'Halloran (11-2) 1
Second Event P. Haynes (5-6 fav) 2
[illegible]

Lingfield Park

1.0 (1.4) HORLEY HURDLE (Div 1: Novices: £690: 2m)

BISHOPS BOW, b m by Crozier—Lucky Bow (Mrs A. Morley) 5-11-2 A. Turnell (12-1) 1
Wimsey ..... B. de Haan (7-1) 2
Grandiose ..... C. Brown (6-1 fav) 3

TOTE: Win, £1.12; places, 27p, 15p, 26p. Dual F: £2.19. CSF: £9.08. R. Turnell, at Marlborough. 4l, 1l. Royal Friend (13-2) 4th. 18 ran. NR: Monbragun.

1.30 (1.36) SEVENOAKS CHASE (Novices: £1,449: 3m)

TOWER MOSS [illegible]

2.0 (2.3) OLD MILL CHASE (Handicap: £1,688: 2½m)

CHARBONNIER, b g by Menelek—Clarkestown (J. O'Neill) 10-10-5
bl Mr P. Webber (9-2) 1
All Right Jack, P. Barton (9-4 fav) 2
Stonepark ..... R. Rowe (100-30) 3

TOTE: win, 60p; places, 16p, 12p, 18p. Dual F: 85p. CSF: £1.45. P. Bailey, at Wantage. ¾l, 8l. Gallico (13-2) 4th. 9 ran.

2.30 (2.34) SOUTHERN COUNTIES HURDLE (Handicap: £1,279: 2m)

ENTEBBE, b g, by Derring-Do—Araltone (R. Reynolds) 6-10-13 ..... P. Scudamore (9-1) 1
Blue Patrol S. Smith Eccles (5-2 fav) 2
Meistersinger R. Champion (8-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 98p; places, 16p, 22p, 26p, 44p. Dual F: £3.77. CSF: £3.47. [illegible]

3.0 (3.4) WEALD CHASE

[illegible]
Brown Jock ..... H. Davies (4-1) 2
Joint Venture ..... R. Champion (8-1) 3

TOTE: Win, 30p; places, 10p, 14p, 24p. Dual F: 36p. CSF: £1.01. J. Gifford, at Findon. 5l, 4l. Royal Stuart (16-1) 4th. 9 ran.

3.30 (3.34) HORLEY HURDLE (Div II Novices: £690: 2m)

GREAT DEVELOPER, br g, by Royalty—Spring Music (D. Sanger) 4-10-7.
P. Scudamore (15-8 fav) 1
Fledge ..... C. Brown (5-1) 2
Tilbury ..... R. Goldstein (7-2) 3

TOTE: Win, 27p; places, 10p, 27p, 11p. Dual F: 93p. CSF: 82p. D. Nicholson, at Stow-on-the-Wold. 5l, [illegible]

Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent, assesses the challenge facing the man who must cut millions from the defence budget



Mr John Nott and BAOR forces in West Germany whose future is the subject of speculation.

A testing baptism of fire for Mr Nott

Mr John Nott who enters his new office as Secretary of State for Defence for the first time on Monday, will be doing so at a difficult time. True, times are always difficult for a fresh face in Horse Guards Avenue, with the Armed Forces, the Civil Service, the defence industries and a dazzle of technical detail to master. But Mr Nott's baptism will be more fiery than most.

During the next few weeks he will have to preside over a programme of economies whose purpose is to take several hundred million pounds out of next year's Defence Estimates. The figure includes the £200m cut demanded by the Cabinet last November and (probably) the amount by which the ministry will exceed its cash limits in 1980-81. A total figure of £600m has been adopted by the media but the ministry insists this is only a guesstimate.

The operation will be painful but not as drastic as some recent speculation has suggested. A number of weapons and communications systems now under development will be cancelled or postponed, recruiting and training will be pruned, fuel economies will be maintained and the usual package of building and welfare schemes will be once more buried in the "pending" tray. To this extent it will be another instalment in the stop-go saga which has made a succession of defence secretaries feel more like candidates on an assault course than shapers of policy.

The Government will not announce the dismemberment of the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR)—a rumour which recently made page one of the *News of the World*, alongside a story headlined: "My 1,000 Sexy Nights..."—if only because this would not save enough money in a short enough time. On the other hand there is a growing consensus that more fundamental surgery will be necessary in the medium or long-term if our defence policy is to have any coherence. The growing debate has been reflected in the letters columns of this newspaper.

Speculation over the future of BAOR was fostered, intentionally or otherwise, by the outgoing Defence Secretary Mr Pym, who was inclined to think aloud on the subject without actually clarifying what he had in mind. Last year's Defence White Paper made no secret of Government concern over the "disturbing" rise in foreign exchange costs of stationing troops on the continent—nearly £750m in 1979-80. And the final offset costs agreement with West Germany expired last March.

Ironically the strength of Britain's Armed Forces is also their weakness. They are almost too well balanced. They keep a full corps and four RAF bases in West Germany; maintain the largest navy in Western Europe; assume responsibility for a huge air defence region around the United Kingdom; operate a strategic nuclear deterrent; and still have to find troops for faraway places like Gibraltar, Hongkong, Cyprus, Belize and, not-so-far-away Northern Ireland.

> ‘The trouble is that Britain distributes its resources so widely that at all times and in all directions there are grounds for criticism. The eggs are in too many baskets’

As professionals they expect to be well-paid, well-trained, well-equipped—and to take their families with them when stationed away from home. They need schools, hospitals, doctors, dentists, lawyers. Successive governments have been criticized: for not spending enough on the Royal Navy, the Army or the RAF, for not contributing enough to one Nato theatre or another. The trouble is that Britain distributes its resources so widely that at all times and in all directions there are grounds for criticism. The eggs are in too many baskets.

The public debate has been over whether the time has come for the Government to concentrate its resources upon either a continental strategy—strengthening British Forces Germany at the expense of the Royal Navy in the Eastern Atlantic; or upon a maritime strategy, which would effectively mean doing exactly the opposite. But such judgments are easily made by academics who do their sums on paper, while ministers who actually have to deal with troops on the ground or ships at sea, understandably find them more difficult.

A land war in Western Europe of the kind which BAOR has been trained to fight, now seems unlikely. So should not BAOR be reduced at least—along with RAF Germany? If one does this, however, one has to decide what to do with the soldiers who are withdrawn. If you keep them in Britain, ready to fly over to Germany in a crisis, you have to build or refurbish barracks for them to live in, provide them with two sets of equipment, find new places for them to train, and prevent them from growing bored.

You also have to ensure that you can fly them back to the continent in a hurry—perhaps at a time when roads, railways and airfields are jammed. On the other hand, if you discharge them from the Army you would not be able to fly them back at all, and would add to the queues for civilian jobs—in the short term anyway.

Those who argue that the navy's commitment to the Eastern Atlantic could be reduced, point out that if there were another war it would probably be short and sharp—and would be over before the Royal Navy could play much part in it. On the other hand again, the Royal Navy represents a very special British contribution to Nato and a decision to run it down could not easily be reversed. There is simply too much investment in the navy's anti-submarine warfare (ASW) role for any Government to view this option with equanimity. The loss of two RAF squadrons which are dedicated to Nato in an anti-shipping role looks very likely, especially as the future of the Sea Eagle missile, which has been developed partly for them, now looks doubtful.

Ideally we need not another Defence Review in Britain but a Nato Review masterminded from Brussels. Mr Pym has already proposed one, and ministers will discuss it at the next meeting of the Defence Planning Committee in May. Unfortunately the European allies do not move except under pressure—and they are already under pressure from the United States. They will not have much sympathy for an impoverished Britain, especially as they think our impoverishment is largely our own fault.

The deployment pattern of Nato forces has remained virtually unchanged for 30 years and the alliance, like Britain, limps from one political crisis to the next. Mr Nott should pursue Mr Pym's lead if only in the hope that the alliance can work out a more equitable arrangement for sharing the costs of stationing troops overseas.

If Britain has to drop one of its larger Nato commitments, most of the allies would no doubt prefer that the Government should abandon its plans to retain a strategic deterrent—or at least should select a cheaper alternative than the Trident missile. The Ministry of Defence has already started to spend money on ordering long-lead items for the Trident system and the four British submarines to carry it. But cancellation would be relatively simple before the mid-1980s when the bulk of the £5,000m costs starts to fall due. If a Labour government were returned to power in 1984, cancellation of the Trident programme would be quite likely anyway.

Mrs Thatcher and her Cabinet have committed themselves so firmly to Trident that they must regard cancellation with a shudder. But the Government is already twisting and turning over its preelection pledges on defence. Unless the economy improves more markedly than now seems likely, the Government might find this one of the more digestible options open to it.

Geoffrey Smith

Confidence will plug the leaks

"I hope it will happen less and less," said Mrs Thatcher on television this week, speaking of her Government's tendency to leak. So she should. This Government has been more prone to leak and more divided than any Conservative administration within memory. Why? This certainly cannot be attributed to the presence of Mr St John-Stevas in its ranks, so what grounds are there for believing that everything will be different in the future?

The cohesion of a government is determined partly by the influence of the prime minister, partly by the extent of the policy differences among its members, and partly by whether it feels itself to be successful. It is when things are going badly that some ministers are most inclined to dissociate themselves surreptitiously from the rest.

A prime minister can exercise a unifying influence either through execeptional skill as a chairman — in the style of an Attlee or a Macmillan — or through massive personal authority. Mr Heath, for example, imposed his will on the last Conservative Government in a way that stifled dissent.

Mrs Thatcher does not come into either category. It is not her inclination to act as a quasi-judicial figure, quietly guiding the discussion until the moment comes to summarize the conclusions. Her preference is to lead from the front, with a certain relish for a good argument. She tends to state her view and in effect to challenge others to disagree. This leads to a style of government that is more stimulating for ministers, with a more open debate among them. But it also leads to a fractious life. She has a stormy relationship with some of her most successful ministers. Lord Carrington is a case in point.

It is true that she has been reverting more to a chairman's role in Cabinet, but it is hard to believe that it could be in her nature to develop into a Tory Attlee. Neither does she hold the Cabinet together by her personal authority. She is indeed a formidable person and her authority was naturally enhanced by such a large election victory. But she is leading a Cabinet with many more experienced members, a number of whom do not share her basic attitudes. There may also be an element of male chauvinism.

Her authority may to some extent be increased by her dismissal of Mr St John-Stevas. She has shown that she is prepared to chop off the head of a minister who gives offence. This may impress the party and may for a time have a cautionary effect upon other ministers. But the operation has been botched. Mrs Thatcher has been forced into the uncomfortable position for any politician of having to protest that her words did not mean what they were thought to have meant. An executioner ought not to have to apologize.

The increase in respect that accrues to a good butcher in politics is likely to be limited in this instance. It will not be negligible, but it will not be enough to keep the Cabinet in line if there are further major differences in policy. Nothing that has been done will remove the propensity to disagree. The question is whether there will be such occasions for disagreement as to sweep aside the pressures for public unity. This is very far from being a government with a death wish. Its differences will be made manifest only when it cannot come together on issues of consequence.

There has been no shortage of these during the Government's life so far. Apart from the undercurrent of doubt over the economic strategy, there have in particular been the disputes over public expenditure and industrial relations legislation. Mrs Thatcher will no doubt recall that disagreement has been expressed from both sides of the Cabinet. It was, after all, she herself who remarked of the Government's earlier scheme for reforming industrial relations law: "some of us think it ought to have gone further".

A Green Paper on further reform in this field is to be published next week. It is almost impossible to propose anything in this area without attracting flak from somewhere in the Tory party, but the principal argument is likely to be whether to legislate again in this Parliament or to promise in the manifesto to do so in the next. With luck, that should postpone and restrict dispute to manageable proportions.

After the trauma of the last public expenditure cuts there is no disposition on either wing of the Cabinet to embark on another exercise of the same sort. There will always be arguments as to how public expenditure should be kept under control, but that is not so difficult as seeking severe cuts. The most contentious field of public spending in the near future is likely to be on defence. If Mrs Thatcher has appointed Mr Nott as Secretary of State in the hope of bringing the department back within its cash limits there will be some tension. The resistance of the Chiefs of Staff will be particularly formidable because they will have the ready ear of Conservative backbenchers who were already becoming restive over the Government's intentions before Christmas. There could be trouble here.



Mrs Thatcher... tends to state her view and in effect to challenge others to disagree. This leads to a style of government that is more stimulating for ministers... but also leads to a fractious life

But the most probable flashpoint is over economic strategy. In the immediate future there will be the questions of the public sector borrowing requirement and the Budget. These are not usually the subject of dispute within the Cabinet because it is the custom for members simply to be informed of the Budget proposals at the last minute. This time there will be attempts to secure a voice for the Cabinet collectively in determining the Budget strategy.

If these attempts are successful it will be a sign that the Prime Minister is far from dominating the Cabinet, because this would be a change not just of procedure but of power.

The critical point, though, will come some time before the end of the year if there are not indications that the overall economic strategy is succeeding —and is likely to be successful in time for the next election. Ministers will know that success will have to be evident during 1982 if they are to stand a reasonable chance at the next election.

One there are signs that the economic strategy is working this will become a more confident government, and confident governments do not leak. But if there are not better grounds for hope within a year then the leaks and indirect disclaimers will multiply, no matter how many ministers Mrs Thatcher may care, and dare, to sack.

Professor F A Hayek on why the poor nations remain poor

The flaws in the Brandt report

We are constantly being told that a dangerous gap is opening as a result of the richer countries getting richer and the poorer countries getting poorer all the time. There is a certain tautological truth in this in so far as those countries whose wealth is growing rapidly tend to get richer than those where it grows little or not at all. But this does not mean that wealth is growing faster in those countries which were richest a generation or two ago, while those which were the poor are now all getting absolutely or relatively poorer.

Some of the countries which show now the most spectacular growth of wealth started from a very low level of wealth indeed: South Korea, Hongkong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Mexico, Venezuela and, most recently and impressively, Chile, not to speak of the proverbial "economic miracles" of West Germany and Japan.

On the other hand, countries which 50 years ago were envied as among the wealthiest, like Great Britain, Argentine, or Czechoslovakia, have experienced a sad relative or absolute decline.

The obvious fact is simply that there are conspicuously rising countries and that these are the ones that have developed an effective market economy; and there are countries which have become increasingly socialist and have during this period suffered a relative or absolute decline in their standard of living and their prospects. This is the "increasing gap", carried by the policies pursued by these countries and by nobody else. We need compare merely West and East Germany, which 30 years ago started equally poor.

The extraordinary feature of the present positions is that the governments who bear the responsibility claim that the socialist principles which have ruined the economies of their countries should be applied internationally to enable them to continue.

I am not questioning that, in the general interest, larger amounts of capital should flow from the wealthy to the poorer countries. That is how in the past economic progress spread. What I am questioning is whether this capital should go to the governments of these countries to enable them to continue with their socialist experiments. I am convinced that by providing the means in this form we harm rather than benefit the people of those countries.

The western world seems to have been led to its present policies by a silly kind of competition with Russia for the sympathy of those countries. But it is not from the goodwill of the intellectual elites whose misguided doctrines now govern so much of the third world, but from the growing welfare of the masses that we must hope in the long run to derive their friendship. Since the majority of the people of the Western world rightly believe that they owe their wealth to the market economy which they maintain, it would only be reasonable if they confined their assistance to the countries in which they could expect that the people at large would benefit from the investment of capital.

Let the Russians assist those governments which wish to organize their economies on the Russian model and let the "capitalist" countries confine thei rhelp to those where they can believe that what they do will really benefit the people at large.

It is deeply to be regretted that a former Conservative British Prime Minister has joined the former socialist Prime Ministers of Germany, Sweden and elsewhere in the notorious *North-South* report to support the traditional fallacy that poverty can be cured by a massive transfer of wealth. This is not the place in which the basic error of this can be conclusively refuted. I can here only implore all readers who have been moved by the specious plausibility of the Brandt Report to study the full analyses which British experts in the field have during the past few months published in various journals, such as Professor P. D. Henderson in *The World Economy* (June), Professors P. T. Bauer and B. S. Yamey in *Commentary* (September) and several others in the current issue of *Encounter*.

They do not argue that no help should be given to the third world but merely that the methods now practised or recommended in the Brandt Report are not only ineffective but would in several ways produce effects opposite to those desired. Personally, I still belive that the alternative I suggested 27 years ago with respect to American help to Europe would equally apply to all Western help to the third world. There seems to me, I then argued, " a strong case for a division of functions between American business and government.

"Let American government, while withdrawing entirely from direct lending, at the same time assume, for a limited period of transition, the role of guarantor against political risks, of private loans to private foreign borrowers, and especially against the risk of the nontransferability of the proceeds of such investments. The economic risk of the particular investment—of the borrower paying interest, or dividends, and repaying the capital in his *own country—would still* remain entirely with the investor. The United States government would merely guarantee that any money thus paid to his credit on the borrowing country would become available in free dollars.

"Such a guarantee should of course be given only on loans and other investments made while the borrower's country abided by the undertaking on which the arrangement was based. The appropriate foundation would be an agreement between the United States and the country concerned, in which the latter undertook to refrain from imposing any obstacles to the transfer of returns from such investments, from levying discriminatory taxation, and from acts of expropriation or confiscation affecting such investment. The country concerned would, in addition, agree to assume full responsibility for any debts on which, through its failure to live up to its obligations, the guarantee of the United States government became effective."

MOSCOW DIARY

I was waiting at the reception desk in the American Embassy recently when I heard voices from the corridor round the corner. Two senior political analysts were engaged in urgent discussion. "The Finnish defence attaché would probably be able to help", one said. "Perhaps we ought to have a word with him."

Clearly I was about to learn some secrets about the defence of the West. "Have you tried Sir Curtis?" the other asked. "You know Sir Curtis is under a lot of pressure at the moment", was the reply.

Sir Curtis Keeble is the British Ambassador in Moscow. What could the matter be? But then it was instantly all clear—and all too typical of most conversations in embassy corridors at this time of year. They were talking about broomball.

Broomball, to remind anyone who has not already heard about the foibles of foreigners in Moscow, is an extraordinarily silly game played by Anglo-Saxons and a few others in winter. It is rather like ice-hockey played seven-a-side but you wear rubber-soled shoes—making it hard to manoeuvre on the ice—and play with a child's plastic ball and Russian twig brooms bound up with sticky tape into the form of a little hook.

Over the years broomball, a locally invented game, has blossomed into a fully organized winter sport with a dozen or more teams from various embassies, a league table, a cup presented each year by British Airways, a set of rather arbitrary rules and a very competitive injury rate.

But this year there is something of a crisis in the broomball world, a number of key ambassadors decided they had had enough of it, partly because of the casualty rate. Since you are permitted and even encouraged to launch yourself at your opponent like a human puck whizzing across the ice, the resulting collisions, though amusing to watch, tend to knock out, literally, several good first secretaries every year. Saturdays, when matches are played, became red alert days for Moscow's British and American doctors, who did a fine job last year sewing up gashes (including my own lip) and setting broken fingers.

There was also the problem of noise. The game has to be played on a frozen tennis court, and there were only four embassies in Moscow that could provide one—Britain, Finland, Sweden and Malaysia. Naturally no respectable team arrives without its supporters: long-suffering wives dragged out to provide hot coffee and vodka in the frequent intervals and friends who enter into the spirit of it all with a great deal of shouting, booing and rather coarse instructions on what to do with this or that opposition player.

When you are in the thick of it, it's an authentic sporting atmosphere, but when you're enjoying a Saturday afternoon rest in the neighbouring embassy residence it is an unending raucous din. At least that is what the Finns found, and after an unfortunate trumpet-blowing incident last year the ambassador decided he did not want broomball on his ice any more.

A big meeting of the captains at the beginning of the season discussed retaliatory measures: Should the Finnish team, unbeaten champions year in year out, be banned from playing? It was a popular move, not least because it would then allow someone else to win the cup. But an uncharacteristically generous spirit prevailed, and instead the matches were rescheduled on only three rinks.



After the first two weeks there was a new crisis. Some people became rather high-spirited on the Malaysian ice, broke into a locked shed and used broomball language to embassy officials. And that was the last game the Malaysians allowed on their rink. Meanwhile a member of the American marines' team—marines provide the guards for United States embassies—took a dislike to a Canadian, strode out from his goal and knocked him out.

The British Ambassador, as one of the two remaining patrons, was then in a strong position. It was, after all, the Brits who invented the game, and Sir Curtis was determined to put a bit of British fair play into it. The league has now been abolished: each match is to be a friendly, and if there has to be a knockout competition—figuratively—let it be at the end of the season when the thaw has already begun. The Marines and Finns are far from happy.

I hung up my broom last year but was persuaded to return to the ice, or rather slush, because of the unexpectedly mild weather, on New Year's Day to play against the British Embassy women. Of course our side lost: I have never yet played on a winning side.

The British ladies deserved to win, because they were so smartly turned out, blue and white uniforms with sweatshirts saying "Great Britain" in big letters on them. A good broomball T-shirt is half the fun. It should properly have something in Russian written on it (the translation of "American Marine Corps" is very quaint and must astonish any Soviet onlookers).

Foreigners have been rather influenced by the Soviet passion for western T-shirts, only in reverse. A Russian slogan is very snob and does wonders for your status—not here, of course, but back in Britain, America or wherever.

After all, what's the fun of going home for holidays if you are not given a chance of boasting about living in Moscow? You cannot sit in the pub with your fur hat on, hoping someone will instantly take you for a Muscovite. But sport a jersey saying "Mockba" (Russian for Moscow) or a picture of St Basil's Cathedral on Red Square and someone is sure to tell you how he served on the Arctic convoys to Murmansk or once bought a Soviet camera that could never be repaired.

I have found the same gasps of astonishment can be cheaply produced by writing your home address on the back of a cheque, and having the subsequent nonchalant patter all prepared. But I was rather taken aback a few weeks ago when I went into a well-known clothes shop in England and made a great show of exulting over the magnificent shiny black plastic bag the shirt I bought as placed in.

Did you know, I asked the shop assistant, that where I live these bags can be sold on the black market for a great deal of money? "Oh yes, I know," he replied coolly. "You must come from Russia." I had forgotten that I had told him exactly the same thing a year earlier.

Off the broomball rink it is more difficult to show off your status in Russia. Of course a foreign car will produce the usual curious stares. Especially if it is one totally unsuited to Moscow's roads and climate—a flashy American sports model, for example, which can be guaranteed not to start in the cold mornings and needs expensive spares from halfway around the world. One well-known conductor at the Bolshoi has such a car—pure white—and has thus achieved the ultimate in status symbols. But nowadays it is not as rare as it was to see a Mercedes with Soviet number plates. I once even saw a new bright yellow Morgan cruising down the streets of Yerevan, the capital of Armenia.

Nor do smart clothes or the student look with faded jeans, Pepsi and Marlboro cigarette attract attention any more; you could pass for any Muscovite keeping up with the trend, especially as Pepsi and Marlboro cigarettes are made in the Soviet Union.

But full broomball gear is still bizarre enough to turn a few heads and the game, even with the new restrictions and the annual additions to the rules, has now had enough publicity to keep it going for many more years. I suggested to a Chinese diplomat that his embassy might have room in its vast compound (the second largest in the world, after the Soviet Embassy in Peking) for a little rink in one corner for Moscow's broomballers. He was intrigued but said the only suitable place had a large ornamental fountain in the middle, and that would complicate the rules immensely.

So the enthusiasts will have to make do with two rinks and abide by British notions of what constitutes a proper, silly, amateur knockabout — not knockout—game.

Michael Binyon

THE TIMES

New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

POLICE AND THEIR SUSPECTS

The Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure had the difficult and sensitive task of trying to devise a publicly acceptable balance between competing positions, which have not always been argued by their supporters rationally or moderately, on a subject of great interest and importance to society. The report it has produced is impressive in its intellectual approach and in its appreciation of the significance of the issues involved. It is unanimous in the sense that every member of the Commission has signed it, though throughout the text there is evidence of disagreement in a number of areas. All the members, however, accept the general thrust of the Commission's recommendations. The differences of opinion about specific topics merely emphasize the complexity of the subject-matter, and should not detract from the impact of the conclusions reached.

Part of the Commission's job was to bring rationality and intelligibility to the wide variety of laws on police powers, many of which have developed piecemeal and often anomalously over more than a century. That, the Commission has done with considerable success. If its proposals were to be implemented, there would be, for the first time since the police came into being, a series of laws and codes governing every aspect of the relationship between the police and the individual who might come into contact with them in a criminal matter. They would tell the police exactly what they were under a duty to do, and what they were entitled to do, and they would tell the individual exactly what his rights were.

Setting up a rational system of criminal procedure is not, however, the end of the matter. The question is whether the proposals allow the police to pursue the objective of detecting crime and bringing criminals to justice without being unduly hampered by restrictive laws, and at the same time provide a suspect with sufficient safeguards against oppression and misconduct on the part of the police. In particular does it provide safeguards against police practices which might result in wrongful conviction? On the whole, the Commission has succeeded in drawing that fine balance on paper, but its recommendations require that society place a level of confidence in police behaviour, and in their commitment to the laws and rules laid down, that cannot be taken for granted.

The broad effect of the Commission's proposals, seen as a package (which is how they should be looked at) would be to rationalize, but also in some cases, to increase police powers. At the same time they would lay down a stricter legal basis on which the police would exercise those powers, and provide additional and clearly defined rights for suspects. The balance is there in theory. But will the police keep within the rules?

The civil liberties lobby believes that the only way to ensure police adherence to the rules is to make any evidence obtained by exceeding lawful powers inadmissible at a subsequent trial. The Commission, except where there has been "inhuman or degrading treatment", has rejected an automatic exclusionary rule of that kind; it prefers to leave policemen who overstepped their authority to be disciplined by their superiors, made subject to the criminal law, or possibly be sued in the civil courts. Judges would be expected to draw the attention of a jury to the fact that evidence had been obtained by improper means, and require them to find corroborative evidence in support.

It is not easy to assess whether those consequences would be sufficient to persuade the police that they should stick scrupulously to the laws and rules proposed governing detention and interrogation. But having an exclusionary rule would not necessarily provide a more effective sanction. Where such a rule has been in operation in the United States, it has largely failed to curb excessive police behaviour.

The Commission has been unnecessarily cautious about tape recordings. It recognized that the recording of police interviews with suspects would be the most appropriate way of protecting the suspect against being "verballed", would monitor the way in which the police behaved, and provide the police themselves with protection against false allegations about their conduct. It then shied away from the logical conclusion that all interrogations in police stations should be recorded.

The Commission did so mainly on the ground of cost, though the amount involved—£6.5 million annually—is relatively modest and would form only a very small proportion of the total budget for the administration of justice. There are other difficulties as well—the lack of interview rooms with the necessary acoustical standards, and the difficulty of finding staff to transcribe the tapes—but these are surely not insuperable. Most of the expenditure would be in the transcription, rather than the taping, but as the vast majority of interrogations would not subsequently be challenged, it would only be necessary to transcribe those interviews which were in issue at the trial.

The existence of the so-called right of silence has been a subject of controversy for many years, with the police claiming that it allows serious criminals to go free (an assertion which has never been backed by convincing evidence) and those concerned with the rights of the suspect insisting that it was an essential safeguard, especially for the inadequate and the innocent. The Commission is right, in recommending that judges and prosecutors should not be given the right to comment on a suspect's refusal to answer police questions, to point out the inconsistency of having an adversarial system which requires the prosecution to prove guilt, and incorporating into it the possibility that silence by an accused could form part of the prosecution's case.

The Commission is right, too, to reject the establishment of a national prosecution service, and to concentrate instead on the service provided locally. The division of responsibility between the police, who would retain control of the investigation process and the new Crown prosecutors' departments, which would make all the decisions affecting the prosecution, and conduct the case in court, is based on sound logical grounds. It is not in the interests of justice that investigation and prosecution should be in the same hands.

JAPAN'S DEFENCE—A NATIONAL DEBATE

It is significant that the first visit abroad of Mr Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, is not to Washington but to Asia. It demonstrates the way in which Japan is slowly emerging from her post-war dependence on the United States and restoring her traditional political and trading links with Asia. This time she is not seeking military domination as she did in the 1930s. However, the shift in her political orientation cannot be divorced from the growing debate over defence.

For some years Japan has been under pressure from the United States to increase her military budget on the grounds that she can well afford the cost and might reasonably be expected to bear a greater share of the burden of maintaining peace in East Asia. This pressure has not come as a surprise to the Japanese. The comforting image of a peaceful country busy with economic growth—and bound to be peaceful to secure vital imports of raw materials—has been shaken by events. Like it or not, the "low posture" that Japan has found so comfortable will no longer serve.

The first warning was the American withdrawal from Vietnam, followed by President Carter's proposal for a phased withdrawal of the American divisions still in South Korea. At the same time, under Chinese pressure, Japan signed a friendship treaty in Peking, a move greeted with marked lack of friendship in Moscow. American diplomatic ties with China brought home to the Japanese the prospect of far eastern realignment. What if they were right in thinking that the American commitment to their interests was becoming less reliable? A poll in 1979 showed that Japanese support for the security treaty with the United States was still strong, but scarcely less strong was the opinion that in an emergency the Americans could not be relied upon to come to Japan's aid.

All this has set going a debate in Japan on defence and on the clause in the American-imposed constitution by which Japan forswears war and the maintenance of offensive armed forces. The decision to increase defence spending by 6.5 per cent in 1981 instead of the 9.7 per cent promised last month to Mr Harold Brown, the American Defence Secretary, is an interim step while the debate goes on.

The purely military reasons for the debate are obvious enough to all open-minded Japanese. The expansion of Soviet military, naval and air forces in the Far East now far exceeds Japan's defensive strength. The use for military purposes of Kunashiri and Etorofu, the islands occupied by the Russians to which Japan's claim continues to be ignored, adds nationalist emotion. Russian warships are all over far eastern waters and make regular use of Vietnamese ports. Japanese air routes and sea lanes are filled with Soviet reconnaissance craft. There have been enough Soviet violations of Japanese air space and territorial waters to bring home to the Japanese their manifest weakness.

These facts alone would call for improvements in Japan's forces, but coupled with the growth of self-confidence in the 1970s they contribute to all those questions about Japan's place and purpose in the world which have been agreeably shelved since the defeat of 1945. Many influential Japanese think there is no cause for radical change. Japan is a member of the western block, they argue, and naturally ought to make a contribution commensurate with her economic power. This is still the mainstream position, and it allows an increase in the military budget while stopping short of revoking Article Nine of the Constitution.

However, more is now being heard of the view that the era in which Japan was taught to "lose in style" has ended. Economic power demands new goals and more effective government. Existing democracy may be unable to produce the necessary unity of will, it is said, so there is hankering for a Japanese de Gaulle and a return to Confucian ideals of honour and spiritual nobility.

No dramatic change of this or any other kind is likely in the foreseeable future. At most, talk of a more forward foreign policy goes on, as if to assert independence without fastening on any one issue. There is some unease. Are Japan's relations with the Russians too much defined or constrained by membership of the western alliance? Does Japan enjoy a proper status by virtue of her western associations? But so far there is no national consensus for fresh answers, nor any pressure on Mr Suzuki to seek one.

Civil Service criticism

From Sir Antony Part

Sir, Before the correspondence on "TV criticism of the Civil Service" is closed may I return to the BBC *Newsweek* programme that gave rise to it?

Whatever the Editor of *Newsweek* may say (letter, December 11) the preliminary briefing was perfunctory compared with that of other programmes in which I have participated; no mention was made of the intention to highlight the Channel tunnel or the Charles de Gaulle Airport (comments on which from the British side would have been relevant and effective); my own contribution was restricted by the producer to a reflective tail-piece filmed as an afterthought by the BBC, and all my comments on some of the fashionable criticisms were omitted; so was the entire contribution, largely favourable I understand to the Civil Service, made by a well known public figure.

This whole incident highlights, I believe, a problem to which those responsible for television might well give more careful consideration. With honourable exceptions they have developed the practice of putting in charge of programmes on particular subjects—as producers or interviewers, or both—people who, professedly, know little or nothing about those subjects and expect to be able to mug them up in some such period as three weeks. When they are criticized for excessive superficiality or for lack of balance they say that the critics mean that they have not done their "research" properly. The truth is that no amount of rushed "research" can make up for a lack of underlying knowledge.

This is not intended as special pleading on behalf of the Civil Service. It is a much wider problem, as recent controversies show, and one that it cannot be easy for the television organizers to solve. Nevertheless the BBC at least does deploy considerable resources on news and current affairs, and one cannot help wondering whether the present fragmentation of these resources over different programmes and services could not usefully be replaced by an organization within the BBC that provides a knowledge in greater depth of the main sectors of public affairs.

If this were done, it could do much to improve the level of public discussion of some controversial matters and especially perhaps of those that are complex and difficult.

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY PART,
Flat 5,
71 Elm Park Gardens, SW10.
January 5.

SOE in the Balkans

From Sir Peter Wilkinson

Sir, As one of the "survivors" referred to by Mr M. R. D. Foot in his letter (January 3), may I endorse his plea for an official history of the work of the Special Operations Executive (SOE) in the Balkans? And the sooner the better; for there are very few left with sufficient knowledge of SOE's exertions in Whitehall, in Baker Street, in Cairo, and in the field—and fewer still with first-hand experience of all four manifestations—to "breathe life" into the dry bones of the fragmentary SOE archives that are believed still to exist.

Unless something is done soon, history will be utterly confused by the myths of the media and the partial judgments of certain of those who worked for (or against) SOE in the Balkans.

Indeed, there is much to be said for widening the subject and commissioning a comprehensive account of the part which Britain played in helping members of the European resistance movements to make their unique contribution, not only to the Allied victory in 1945 but to the ideal of European unity which remains our earnest hope.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
PETER WILKINSON,
Mill House,
Charing, Kent.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The hard choices on defence

From Admiral of the Fleet Lord Hill-Norton

Sir, Mr Barnett is a competent historian, and has written agreeably enough about some military matters long past. His letter in your issue of December 22 demonstrates that he should stick to his last, for the making of defence policy is now a complicated and difficult matter for the life-time professionals, and well beyond the grasp of armchair dilettantes.

It is his astounding ignorance of Allied problems in the Nato area, and the probably graver threat to ourselves and our friends outside it, which calls for comment. It is common ground among informed observers that the land-air forces of Nato in central Europe are there to deter a Russian attack, whether from a standing start or after due preparation. It is equally common ground that their numbers and arms are on the borderline of adequacy for this purpose, and that their deterrent value is only credible because they can be supplied, re-supplied and reinforced by sea, across the North Atlantic.

The vital support of the Central Region of Nato thus depends directly upon the ocean-going ships of the Royal Navy. There are no others in existence which could take their place, and not only do our Allies know it, but so do the *Russians*.

If the land-air forces in the Central Region of Nato are to be increased or strengthened (and they certainly need to be) this would clearly best be done by those Allies who cannot contribute to the maritime deterrent forces. Rhine Army and RAF Germany are certainly important components of Northern Army Group and the Second Allied Tactical Air Force in political terms, but they are small in number, and although well trained are no longer in the front rank for equipment. If Trident were abandoned the projected annual savings would be just enough to put one additional armoured division and possibly two more squadrons of aircraft in their orders of battle. I am certain that neither our Allies nor the Russians would feel that deterrence had thereby been significantly enhanced; or the Allied war-fighting capability made decisively greater should deterrence unhappily fail.

But the whole huge and difficult question of deterrence outside the Nato area has been ignored by Mr Barnett, and our Nato Allies warmly share the educated view that it is there, and not in Western Europe, that the greatest threat to the free world now lies. The statistics of what is at risk in the South Atlantic, the Indian Ocean, the Arabian Sea and the Gulf are by now well known, even if they have escaped Mr Barnett. Interdiction of those supply routes would quickly bring the industries of Western Europe and North America to a grinding halt, and destroy our way of life; and this is precisely why Gorschkov's navy is the size and shape it is. It can only be deterred or prevented by globally deployed sea power, and even a cursory glance at Jane's would make it clear that without the Royal Navy at its present minimum strength the job cannot be done.

I remain, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
HILL-NORTON,
House of Lords.

From Wing Commander Derek Dudley Martin

Sir, Brigadier Shelford Bidwell's list (December 31) is a useful start. Most who have served in the Armed Forces could add to it.

Why is it necessary to give military rank (with the inevitable expense that rank involves) to the education branch or to doctors and dentists? And is there any longer any justification for *three* Services?

Yours faithfully,
DEREK DUDLEY MARTIN,
Cobble Wood,
Medmenham,
Marlow,
Buckinghamshire.

From Lieutenant-Colonel Sir G. Kennard

Sir, Perhaps Brigadier Shelford Bidwell, in his computerized solution to defence (December 31), has forgotten that the greatest factor in war remains morale.

That morale feeds on the tradition of the regiment, its history, customs, and its uniform, so that in many hundred years the thin red line has never been truly broken. Nor will it ever be if the man behind the gun remains the same.

Yours faithfully,
G. KENNARD,
Gogwell,
Tiverton,
Devon.
January 6.

Surviving a nuclear attack

From Mr Edward Leigh

Sir, When the Deputy Leader of the Labour Opposition at the GLC, Mr Illtyd Harrington, criticizes me for saying that more money needs to be spent on defence and in particular on civil defence despite cutbacks in other areas of public expenditure (letter, December 29), I am reminded of the words of the Deputy Leader of her Majesty's Opposition, Mr Denis Healey: "I warn my honourable Friends that once we cut defence expenditure to the extent where our security is imperilled, we have no homes, we have no hospitals, we have no schools, we have a heap of cinders."

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD LEIGH,
Members' Lobby,
The County Hall, SE1.

Sticky business

From Mr Eric Sampson

Sir, Mr Moriarty (January 6) will find acetone (nail varnish remover) or proprietary brands of paint brush cleaner will dissolve his problems! A vat of boiling oil is needed to dissolve the cause of them.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC SAMPSON,
Science Research Council,
PO Box 18,
Swindon,
Wiltshire.
January 7.

Cairngorms ski developments

From Mr Peter Hodgkiss and Mr Mark Hutchinson

Sir, We would welcome the opportunity to express the objections of the Mountaineering Council of Scotland and the British Mountaineering Council to ski developments in the northern corries of Cairngorm, touched on by Ronald Faux (December 30) but so briefly that misunderstanding could arise.

The councils accept the overwhelming demand for expansion of ski facilities in the Scottish Highlands and are broadly in favour of development to meet the demand. However, we believe most earnestly that these should only be allowed to take place within the context of a Highland-wide policy plan that gives full weight to environmental factors and existing recreational use and balances these against the commercial viability of any proposals. Sadly, no such far-sighted planning has yet emerged.

Why is it that Coire an t-Sneachda and Coire an Lochain are so valuable to hill walkers and climbers?

First, the Cairngorms are one of the few areas of mountain wilderness in Western Europe and provide the most extensive high level hill walking in Britain. An area of such unique quality already carries a scar of considerable magnitude. Secondly, the two corries provide particularly good winter climbing. A large range of climbs of moderate grades and reasonable length, combined with relatively easy access, make them unique in providing the qualities without the seriousness and commitment normally associated with Scottish winter climbing grounds.

Visual intrusion, noise and erosion, the inevitable consequences of ski development, are just the aspects mountaineers seek to escape in the hills. When one considers the qualities of the area and the fact that the development will serve a highly seasonal demand but despoil permanently, the widely held objections of the mountain users are, we believe, understandable and justified.

Yours faithfully,
PETER HODGKISS,
Mountaineering Council of Scotland,
MARK HUTCHINSON,
British Mountaineering Council,
Crawford House,
Precinct Centre,
Booth Street East, Manchester.

From Mr F. D. Hamilton

Sir, Ronald Faux's recent article (December 30) on the proposed expansion of skiing facilities in the Cairngorms highlights a very important conservation issue. It can hardly be surprising that this threat to one of the most environmentally sensitive areas of Scotland has attracted objections from a wide range of amenity and nature conservation bodies including the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

The Cairngorm plateau is the outstanding example of the only habitat in Britain to be mentioned in the world conservation strategy as being in need of greater protection. International experts and local interests alike have expressed their deep concern that such a development should be proposed so close to such a vulnerable area.

While employment opportunities in an area such as the Highlands should not be lightly dismissed, the solution, as mentioned in your article, is for expansion of skiing facilities to take place in one or more of several areas other than Cairngorm where they would not have significant environmental impact. This would have the added advantage of making the economic benefits from such developments more widely available.

Yours faithfully,
F. D. HAMILTON,
Director (Scotland),
The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds,
17 Regent Terrace, Edinburgh.

Monetarism's testing time

From Professor Wynne Godley and Professor Robert Neild

Sir, Professor Milton Friedman, in an article in *The Times* of March 3, 1980, stated that in Britain it takes on average about *six months* for monetary growth to affect real growth and *two* years to affect inflation; he also issued a challenge to some of us in Cambridge "to offer empirical evidence contradicting these well-established propositions".

Now Mr Jay (January 5) claims that monetarism is a doctrine (sic) which "maintains that changes in the stock of money (less any changes in real productivity) will, after a delay of three to five years, determine the rate of inflation", an idea he specifically associates with the work of Professor Friedman.

If they want to be taken seriously, Mr Jay and his fellow monetarists cannot pluck a new number out of the air just because monetarism is failing to work as predicted. They must make up their minds how long the lag is, and explain precisely how they reached that conclusion.

The evidence does not support either proposition. The two-year lag appeared to work in the early 1970s for the purely fortuitous reason that the rise in oil prices came two years after competition and credit control let loose the money supply; but it *completely fails to account* for the price explosion of 1979 and 1980. The three to five-year lag fails to explain the price increase in 1973 and 1974 and the deceleration after 1977.

And who is Mr Jay to say that unemployment permanently in the low millions is what the British "basically deserve"? Unemployment is not the inescapable consequence of present wage bargaining practices, which were in operation during many years of full employment and negligible inflation. The present rise in unemployment at record rates to record levels is the direct consequence of the Government's fiscal policies which, together with high interest rates, have "hugely" raised the exchange rate and reduced real demand and output.

Yours faithfully,
WYNNE GODLEY,
ROBERT NEILD,
University of Cambridge
(Department of Applied Economics),
Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge.

Dressing for the job

From Mr A. J. P. Dalton

Sir, Ms Anne Potter, Kingston and Richmond Area Health Authority nursing personnel officer, states that the wearing of trousers by nurses would offend tradition (report, January 6). Does she mean the tradition of nurses developing backache?

In some hospitals two nurses can lift a total of 2¼ tons in one hour toiletting dependent patients. Surveys have shown that an amazing one in 15 nurses suffer a back injury in the course of a year. Many nurses suffer irreparable damage, considerable pain and have to leave the profession for this reason.

Recommendation 14 of the recent Royal College of Nursing (RCN) report, "Avoiding Low Back Injury Among Nurses", was, "That nurses' uniform should be modified to incorporate a trouser suit, to permit nurses to effect a correct lifting stance on all occasions".

Apparently the tradition of uniform for nurses dates from the twelfth century. Backache likewise no doubt. This is the twentieth century. Let us hope the tribunal realises this and finds *for* Ms Kaur wearing trousers. All nurses, and thus patients, will benefit.

Such a decision will go some way to ensuring that, in the words of the RCN report, "Nursing should not be an occupation in which the fittest survive".

Yours sincerely,
ALAN J. P. DALTON,
Lecturer in Health and Safety,
South West London College,
Centre for Higher Business Studies,
Abbotswood Road, SW16.
January 6.

Art of the portrait

From Mr J. S. Ward, RA

Sir, It seems a pity that John Russell Taylor (article, December 30) could not make more of the National Portrait Gallery's exhibition of new British portraiture (Imperial Tobacco award).

These are desperate times for young painters with the drying up of part-time teaching which, for the past fifty years, has helped so many serious painters over the difficult early years, and new areas of patronage are badly needed. Everyone knows that hundreds of thousands of pounds are spent annually on portraiture, and this was a splendid and generous attempt to introduce new blood into this field.

For many years portraiture has been so despised by art critics that it has had none of the benefits of helpful criticism, and here was an opportunity for an appraisal of the art using the unique background of the National Portrait Gallery's own collection.

Drab and unimaginative Mr Taylor calls the entries, but could he not enlarge upon why so much of the work suffers in this way? Could he not use the powerful, yet enchanting, Reynolds of Garrick and his wife which we pass on the way to the exhibition to show where their work could benefit? Could he not have pointed out that the other rooms demonstrate what a rich variety of portraits are possible, from the huge groups to such tiny masterpieces as that of Colin Campbell by Francis Grant?

Many painters will feel that Mr Taylor has let slip a rare and golden opportunity to be both critical and helpful. But all good wishes to those young painters who were brave enough to enter the competition and congratulations to the National Portrait Gallery and their sponsors for achieving an exhibition which is arousing great interest, and may it revive this great art.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN WARD,
Bilting Court,
Ashford,
Kent.
December 31.

Royal Family duties

From Mr T. C. M. O'Donovan

Sir, I have carried out a survey of the duties performed by the Royal Family during 1980, as reported in your Court Circular.

	1	2	3	4	5
The Queen	92	64	1	65	5
Duke of Edinburgh	123	89	38	3	14
The Queen Mother	66	35	1	16	—
Prince of Wales	121	38	16	21	6
Princess Anne	59	38	3	6	3
Princess Margaret	72	19	6	1	5
Princess Alice Duchess of Gloucester	56	17	2	10	—
Duke of Gloucester	58	20	3	7	5
Duchess of Gloucester	45	14	3	1	1
Duke of Kent	52	28	11	3	3
Duchess of Kent	52	13	4	2	2
Princess Alexandra	61	15	7	2	3

1 Official visits opening ceremonies and other appearances, including charity galas and premieres.
2 Receptions, lunches, dinners and banquets
3 Meetings presided over and attended.
4 Audiences given.
5 Overseas tours and visits.

In addition the Queen held 31 investitures, the Queen Mother three, the Prince of Wales one and Princess Margaret one. The Queen received 98 Ambassadors and High Commissioners in audience, the Queen Mother one, the Prince of Wales one, Princess Anne three and Princess Margaret five. The Queen also presided over 10 meetings of the Privy Council, the Queen Mother two and Princess Anne and Princess Margaret one each during the Queen's absence abroad.

I have not included the weekly audiences given by the Queen to the Prime Minister.

During 1980 the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh entertained 43 official guests to stay at the royal palaces.

It is especially pleasing to see the Duchess of Kent carrying out more official duties with 73 appearances, against 33 in 1979. One cannot fail to be impressed with the Queen Mother's busy schedule—a remarkable achievement in her eightieth birthday year.

All this information again confirms the hard work undertaken by members of the Royal Family and hopefully it will be remembered by those politicians and members of the public who always criticize the annual review of the Civil List.

Yours faithfully,
T. C. M. O'DONOVAN,
Mariners,
11 The Avenue,
Datchet, Berkshire.

Tree management for energy uses

From Dr George Peterkin

Sir, It is heartening to hear that James Blewitt and other farmers are turning their attention to planting and pollarding oaks for fuel (January 5). Perhaps, too, that other traditional form of tree management, coppicing, will return for much the same reasons.

Small, formerly coppiced woods are still scattered through the countryside and, despite decades of neglect, could once again supply fuel indefinitely to rural communities without even having to be planted. And the benefits for wildlife would be tremendous.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE PETERKIN,
Nature Conservancy Council,
PO Box 6,
Godwin House,
George Street,
Huntingdon.
January 7.

Planting policy

From the County Planning Officer, Royal County of Berkshire

Sir, I have no wish to enter Mr Stourton's anthropomorphic trap as to whether horse chestnuts are native (January 3). However, local authorities offering grant aid for tree planting in the countryside do so jointly with the Countryside Commission. Indeed the majority of the funds come from the commission.

The scheme has, therefore, to be operated in accordance with their advice which includes, "to accommodate landscape and nature conservation requirements, native broad-leaved trees should be used predominantly". They also state, "non-native trees which may be acceptable as a small proportion in *planting schemes include* sweet chestnut, horse chestnut, southern beech, grey alder and sycamore".

Thus the question is not one of history but of sympathy with the existing landscape of this country and its rôle in nature conservation. While introduced trees are often important from an aesthetic or commercial point of view, they should not be encouraged to become dominant as this would change the landscape that characterizes this country and reduce its potential for the conservation of wildlife.

This council encourages the planting of trees in the countryside but, in these days of financial stringency, priority must be given to schemes which make the most appropriate contribution.

Yours faithfully,
R. S. STODDART,
County Planning Officer,
Royal County of Berkshire,
Department of Planning,
Shire Hall,
Shinfield Park,
Reading, Berkshire.
January 6.

Coverage of Sutcliffe case

From Mr S. P. Best

Sir, Having viewed television programmes tonight (January 5) dealing with the arrest in Yorkshire and subsequent appearance before Dewsbury Magistrates of Mr P. W. Sutcliffe, I am driven to ask whether we need, particularly in murder and other serious cases, judges and juries to determine, after long and patient inquiry, guilt or innocence; still less, of course, solicitors or barristers to defend the accused.

The high priests of the broadcasting industry with their superior skills—so triumphantly demonstrated only recently in another and medical context by a *Panorama* team—placed us further in their debt tonight, rendering our cherished (but to them, no doubt, obscurantist) notions of justice obsolete and showing how the public, in a few minutes of mass viewing, can be guided to its verdict in the absence, the convenient absence one might even say, of the accused.

Yours faithfully,
S. P. BEST,
British Legal Association,
29 Church Road,
Royal Tunbridge Wells,
Kent.
January 5.

Effectiveness of fines

From Mr A. J. Brayshaw

Sir, Mr John Wheeler (January 2) has not understood the realities of the situation. Already, by law, courts take account of the means of offenders, so far as they are known, although there is some doubt (which needs resolving) whether fines may be legally increased for the wealthy as they must be decreased for the poor. Any guidelines or starting points are modified according to this factor among others

If a better-off motorist is fined, say, £70 for careless driving he can, should, and usually does pay promptly. If an unemployed man—and it is surprising how many of them commit motoring offences—is fined £40 for a similar offence he may be required to pay at, say, £2 a week. Discounts for prompt payment are not very relevant.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. BRAYSHAW,
Apple Trees,
Beech Road,
Haslemere,
Surrey.
January 2.

Special jury service

From Mr John H. Fisher Evans

Sir, On reading your critique (January 6) of a recent account of corruption in the Carmarthen of past years I was reminded of the occasion early in this century when Mr Llewellyn Williams, QC, MP, a distinguished Welsh politician, lawyer, and Oxford scholar, travelling on circuit from Chester to Carmarthen Assize and witnessing from his carriage the final run of a foxhound chase in full cry reflected, in Welsh of course: "Poor little fox (*cadno bach*) nothing but a Carmarthen jury could save you now."

Yours truly,
JOHN H. FISHER EVANS,
6 Windsor House,
Westgate Street,
Cardiff.
January 6.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM

January 8: The Funeral of Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone took place in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle today at 2.30 pm.

The Lady May Abel Smith and Colonel Sir Henry Abel Smith were present.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, The Prince of Wales, Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke and Duchess of Kent, Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, Princess Alexandra, the Hon Mrs Angus Ogilvy and the Hon Angus Ogilvy and other Members of the Royal Family attended.

The King of Norway and The King of Sweden also attended. The Funeral Service was conducted by the Dean of Windsor and was followed by Interment at Frogmore.

The Bearer Party at St George's Chapel was provided by The Life Guards and the Bearer Party at Frogmore was provided by The Blues and Royals.

The Right Hon Norman St John-Stevas, MP had an audience of Her Majesty at Windsor Castle and delivered up the Seals of Office upon relinquishing his appointment as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

The Queen held a Council at Windsor Castle at 3.45 pm.

There were present: the Lord Soames (Lord President) the Right Hon Francis Pym, MP, the Right Hon John Biffen, MP and the Right Hon Norman Fowler, MP.

Mr Leon Brittan, MP (Chief Secretary, Treasury) was sworn in a Member of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

The following took the Oath of Office, kissed hands upon appointment and received the Seals of Office: the Right Hon John Biffen (as Secretary of State for Trade and President of the Board of Trade) and the Right Hon Norman Fowler (as Secretary of State for Transport).

The Right Hon Francis Pym took the Oath of Office as Paymaster General and kissed hands upon his appointment.

Sir Neville Leigh was in attendance as Clerk of the Council.

The Lord Soames had an audience of The Queen before the Council.

After the Council, the Right Hon Francis Pym had an audience of Her Majesty, was sworn Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, kissed hands upon his appointment and received from The Queen the Seals of Office.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Cullen of Ashbourne (Lord in Waiting) was present at Royal Air Force Northolt this morning upon the arrival of The King of Norway and welcomed His Majesty on behalf of Her Majesty.

By command of The Queen, the Lord Hamilton of Dalzell (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London this morning upon the arrival of The King of Sweden and welcomed His Majesty on behalf of Her Majesty.

Birthdays today

Sir Rudolf Bing, 79; Sir John Buckley, 68; Admiral Sir Guy Grantham, 81; Mr Terry Hands, 40; Mr David Holbrook, 58; Sir Glyn Jones, 73; Mr Harry Kernoff, 81; Admiral Sir Frederick Parham, 80; Mr Ralph Tubbs, 69; the Right Rev F. H. West, 72.

Children to get a royal variety show

Children are to be given their own royal variety show each year, it was announced yesterday by the management of the London Palladium.

Princess Margaret will be the guest at the inaugural event, to be staged next month. It will be shown on independent television at Easter.

A cast is being assembled to appeal to children. Among the performers will be Jim Davidson, Paul Daniels, Windsor Davis, Clive Dunn, Rod Hull and Emu, and Basil Brush.

Today's engagements

Talks: Florence in 1475, by Paul Spencer-Longhurst, National Gallery, 1; Roman jewelry, by Anne Pearson, 11.30; Music in the ancient near-East, by Dominique Collon, 1.15: British Museum; Giacometti, by Cecily Lowenthal, Tate Gallery, 1.

Exhibitions: The London Group in Southwark, South London Art Gallery, 10-6; New paintings by Ann Redpath, Mercury Gallery, 26 Cork Street, 10-5.30; Painted Ladies, Victoria Art Gallery, Bridge Street, Bath, 10-6; New Japanese acquisitions, British Museum, Great Russell Street, 10-5; Etchings, screenprints and watercolours, Fitzroy Gallery, 4 Windmill Street, 10-6.

Norwich Antiques Fair, Blackfriars Hall, Andrew's Plain, Norwich, 11-9.

Lunchtime music: Janet Dick, piano, Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Barbican, 1.10.

Southover Manor School

The Governors of Southover Manor School, Lewes, Sussex, are pleased to announce the appointment of Mrs Edward Forrest as principal, to succeed Mrs Mary Procter on her retirement. Mrs Forrest was previously Senior House Mistress of St Felix School, Southwold. Spring Term at Southover starts today and ends on March 27.

Allhallows School

Term begins on January 14 and ends on March 25. The closing date for applications for awards and reductions in fees is February 2.

US choreographer is given British award

The Royal Academy of Dancing has given its 1980 Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Award to Glen Tetley, the American choreographer, for his contribution to British ballet with his *Tempest* for Ballet Rambert, *Dances of Albion* for the Royal Ballet, and *Sphinx* for London Festival Ballet. It is the first time the award has gone to an American.

£10,000 bond winners

The winning numbers in the January Premium Savings Bond draw for prizes of £10,000 are: 9AW 296463 (winner lives in Sheffield), 4JK 573364 (Surrey), 7RF 988840 (Buckinghamshire), 6WL 545710 (Lincolnshire), 11XZ 429284 (Belfast).

25 years ago

From The Times of Monday, January 9, 1956

Resignation rumours

From Our Political Correspondent

Criticism of the Government's handling of affairs, which has been growing since Parliament adjourned for the Christmas recess, was followed during the weekend by a persistent rumour that Sir Anthony Eden intended to resign as Prime Minister and was to be succeeded by Mr Butler, Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the House. This rumour was quickly scotched by a denial issued from 10 Downing Street on Saturday. Mr Butler added a further emphatic denial yesterday before he left London for a fortnight's holiday in the south of France. A Downing Street spokesman said on Saturday that rumours that the Prime Minister was to resign in the next few months and was to be succeeded by Mr Butler were false and had no foundation whatever. Yesterday Mr Butler said that he knew nothing about these rumours until they were mentioned to him, and he declared his determination to support the Prime Minister in all his difficulties. Recent attacks in the press, including several newspapers which have hitherto consistently supported the Government, have accused the Prime Minister of indecision and weakness

Latest wills

Mrs Olivia Mary Smith, of St John's Wood, London, Olivia Manning, the novelist, left estate valued at £167,463 net.

Mr Hugh Cecil Watts, of Kingston upon Thames, London, left estate valued at £200,017 net. After personal bequests he left £20,000 each to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and the Association for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus, and £10,000 to the New Victoria Hospital, Kingston upon Thames.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):

Barker, Mr Charles George Henry, of Scarborough, hotelier £129,726
Bean, Mr Charles James, of Deal, Kent £181,095
Berry, Mr Robert Fort, of Clitheroe, Lancashire .. £141,880
Kaye, Mr Albert Wilson, of Morecambe, wool broker .. £152,202
Murray, Dr Malcolm Gordon, of Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire £163,787
Ray, Mr Frank Hubert, of Dulwich, London £185,559
Rothwell, Mr William Edmund, of Halsall, Lancashire .. £125,380
Stacey, Mr Arthur Reginald, of Castlethorpe, Buckinghamshire £199,300
Payne, Mr Eric Kenneth, of Elstree, Hertfordshire .. £143,002
Pears, Mr Bernard, of Baker Street, London £251,024
Pollard, Mr John Henry, of Kidderminster, Worcestershire £147,302
Rainford, Mrs Dorothy, of Stretford, Manchester £157,143
Roberts, Mr Sidney John, of Brixham, Devon £155,123
Shaw, Major John Sacriston, of Cottingham, Humberside, electrical engineer £204,069
Sword, Mrs Enid Mary, of Taunton, Somerset £203,869

European royalty bids farewell to a Victorian lady

Princess Alice buried at Windsor

From John Witherow
Windsor

Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, who in her 97 years witnessed the British Empire's decline from the zenith of Victorian influence, was buried yesterday at Frogmore, in Great Windsor Park, near Queen Victoria, her grandmother.

The quiet funeral service at St George's chapel, Windsor Castle, where she was born in 1883 and married to Prince Alexander of Teck 76 years ago, was attended by many members of European royal families.

Members of the Royal Family, including the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and the Prince of Wales, paid their final respects to the last of Queen Victoria's grandchildren.

Princess Alice, who at the age of four rode in an open carriage at Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee and four years ago attended the Queen's silver jubilee, was closely connected to most of Europe's royal families.

Her cousins, King Olaf of Norway, Princess Juliana of the Netherlands and Princess Louise of Hesse, attended the funeral, with her great nephew, King Carl Gustav of Sweden and her nephew, Prince Friederich of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

Princess Alice's coffin, draped with the royal standard, was carried by eight pallbearers from the Life Guards through the west door of Windsor Chapel, followed by members of the Royal Family and by four generations of relatives, including her only surviving daughter, Lady May Abel Smith.

The coffin was taken by car to Frogmore, where it was buried between the graves of her husband, Lord Athlone, who died in 1957, and her son, Lord Tremarton, killed in a motor cycle accident when he was 21.

The service, for about 100 people, in the fifteenth-century church, the home of the Knights of the Order of the Garter, was conducted by the Dean of Windsor, the Right Rev Michael Mann. He paid tribute to her "courage and steadfastness, her loyalty and service, and her love of family".

Outside Windsor Castle a small group of people gathered on a grey, misty afternoon to catch a glimpse of the Royal Family returning to Sandringham.

Princess Alice, the daughter of Queen Victoria's youngest son, the Duke of Albany, and of Princess Helen of Waldeck-Pyrmont, will perhaps be best remembered as the quietly informal old lady who delighted in anonymity in her later years.

During her long life she travelled widely, living in South Africa during the 1920s and in Canada during the Second World War, where her husband was governor general.

The Canadian High Commissioner and the South African ambassador attended the funeral in remembrance of the work she and her husband did in both countries.

The High Commissioner for Jamaica, where Princess Alice was Chancellor of the University of the West Indies, also attended. During her life, in which she was closely involved in work for children's charities and nurses' welfare, she completed more than 20,000 engagements.

Her last public appearance was at the christening in 1977 of her great-great-great-nephew, Peter Phillips, the son of Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips.

Princess Alice retained the Victorian virtues to the last, at the same time accepting the rapid changes in the world.

A memorial service will be held on February 10 at St Mary Abbot Church, Kensington, where she often worshipped.

Gipsy Moth yacht to be sold in street

By Frances Gibb

Sir Francis Chichester's yacht, Gipsy Moth III, in which he won the first single-handed transatlantic race in 1960, is to be auctioned from the pavement outside Bonham's, in Knightsbridge, London, next Thursday.

The 39ft yacht, the last of Sir Francis's three great yachts available for sale, is expected to attract the interest of boat owners and museums and hotels, and is expected to fetch more than £22,000.

Bonham's said yesterday: "If bought by someone interested in sailing, the yacht would be expected for its age, size and type to fetch £20,000 to £24,000. But it could go to a buyer who wants it for its historical associations and intends to put it in concrete and make it an attraction for visitors."

Gipsy Moth III, which goes on display outside Bonham's two days before the sale, was built in 1959 to a design by Mr Robert Clark, who later designed *Gipsy Moth V*, built in Ireland by Mr Jack Tyrell.

Photograph by Brian Harris

Mrs Sheila Collett, the first woman head scout at Magdalen College, Oxford, with Mr Thomas Charlett, who is retiring at the end of the month after 50 years at the college.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. N. Browne and Miss A. E. Mitchell
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, only son of the late Mr J. C. Browne, MC, and of Mrs Browne, of Roehampton, London, SW15, and Angelica, only daughter of the late Sir George Mitchell, CB, QC, and of Lady Mitchell, of Roehampton, London, SW15.

Mr D. S. Barbour and Miss A. M. Howarth
The engagement is announced between David Stewart, second son of the Very Rev Professor Robin and Mrs Barbour, of Fincastle, Pitlochry, and Aberdeen, and Alexandra Mary, younger daughter of the Rev Geoffrey and Mrs Howarth, of Newburn Vicarage, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Mr A. L. C. Cameron and Miss D. Heaton-Caffin
The engagement is announced between Alastair Cameron, of Abbotsbury Road, London W14, and Dawn Heaton-Caffin, of Beckenham, Kent.

Mr J. A. P. Chandler and Miss B. F. Gudgin
The engagement is announced between John, only son of Mr and Mrs J. Parsons-Chandler, of Stotfold, Hertfordshire, and Brigitte, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Tim Gudgin, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Mr R. C. Course and Miss S. Thorpe
The engagement is announced between Robert Clifford, elder son of Squadron Leader and Mrs R. H. Course, of Norwich, and Sarah, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Thorpe, of Drayton, Norwich.

Captain A. M. Fraser and Dr S. M. MacGregor
The engagement is announced between Alexander Mayer Fraser, the Royal Tank Regiment, son of the Rev J. G. and Mrs Fraser, of Drumoyne, Glasgow, and Susan Marjorie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs J. C. MacGregor, of Clarkston, Glasgow.

Mr M. Garratt and Miss S. Holland
The engagement is announced between Marvyn, son of Mr and Mrs A. J. Garratt, of Verteillac, Dordogne, France, and Susan, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs C. T. P. Holland, of Selling, Kent.

Mr R. C. Goracy and Miss M. A. S. Fleming
The engagement is announced between Robert, elder son of Mr and Mrs R. C. Goracy, of New Jersey United States, and Michèle, only daughter of Wing Commander and Mrs W. B. Fleming, of Otford, Kent.

Mr A. T. Hayley Bell and Miss S. C. de V. Davidson-Houston
The engagement is announced between Andrew Timothy, younger son of Mr and Mrs D. Hayley Bell, of Haslemere, Surrey, and Sonia Catherine de Vere, twin daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel W. E. C. Davidson-Houston and Mrs V. A. Davidson-Houston, of Cobham, Surrey.

Mr J. R. Heaps and Miss V. A. Smith
The engagement is announced between John, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. D. Heaps, of Linton, Wetherby, West Yorkshire, and Vivienne, daughter of Mr and Mrs D. W. A. Smith, of Sevenoaks, Kent.

Mr A. M. Hetherington and Miss N. J. Conolly
The engagement is announced between Alistair MacCulloch, son of Mr and Mrs J. K. Hetherington, of Pittenweem, and Nichola Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. E. Conolly, of Culross, Fife, late of Hampton.

Mr C. W. R. Manners and Miss F. H. Meath Evans
The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr and Mrs Robert Manners, of Corwen, Clwyd, and Françoise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Alain-François Meath Evans, of Sirap, London, W13.

Mr R. H. Rosa and Miss S. C. Grimes
The engagement is announced between Ricardo, son of Mr and Mrs H. Rosa, of Brasilia, Brazil, and Sally, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. B. Grimes, of Grimsthorpe, Lincolnshire.

The Rev A. D. Parsons and Miss D. L. Clews
The engagement is announced between Andrew, second son of the late Mr Anthony Parsons and Mrs Elizabeth Wallace and stepson of Major John Wallace, of Speldhurst, Kent, and Diane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roy Clews of Leamington Spa.

Mr J. A. Shuckburgh and Miss P. Abbott
The engagement is announced between Adrian, younger son of Mr and Mrs J. S. Shuckburgh, of Castlemead, Frances Road, Windsor, Berkshire, and Patricia, daughter of Mr and Mrs M. P. Abbott, of Castlemans, Sedlescombe, Battle, Sussex.

Mr J. V. Smart and Miss S. A. Lawton
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs J. A. Smart, of Belfast, Northern Ireland, and Sally, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. W. Lawton, of Singapore, and Wellington, Shropshire.

Mr S. M. Smith and Miss D. E. D. Need
The engagement is announced between Steven Miles, son of Mr Graham Smith and the late Mrs Evelyn Smith, of Redruth, Cornwall, and Diana Elizabeth Deborah, daughter of Mr Richard Need and Mrs Robert Mathews.

Mr J. M. A. Thompson and Miss J. M. Gregson
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mr and Mrs J. F. Thompson, of New Barnet, Hertfordshire, and Jennifer, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. C. Gregson, of Richmond, North Yorkshire.

Mr C. F. Trotman-Dickenson and Miss M. G. Mainprice
The engagement is announced between Casimir Fiennes, elder son of Dr and Mrs A. F. Trotman-Dickenson, of Llandaff, South Glamorgan, and Margaret Gillian, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs H. R. Mainprice, of Prestbury, Cheshire.

Marriages

The Hon A. M. J. Rothschild and Miss A. P. Guinness
The marriage took place in London on January 8, 1981, between the Hon Amschel Rothschild and Miss Anita Guinness.

Mr J. A. Harvie and Miss A. M. Lea
The marriage took place on Thursday, January 8, at the Temple Church between Mr Jonathan Harvie, only son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Harvie, of Silver Birches, Bridge, Kent, and Miss Antonia Lea, only daughter of Judge and Mrs Christopher Lea, of Simms Farm House, Mortimer, Berkshire. The Master of the Temple, Canon Joseph Robinson, officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Alexander and Francesca Rossi, Arabella and Tristan Phillimore and Nicola and James Turner. Mr Sebastian Neville-Clarke was best man.

A reception was held in Middle Temple Hall.

Christening

The infant daughter of the Hon Hugh and Mrs Trenchard was christened Katherine Clare by the Rev B. A. Tunstall at St Mary's, North Mymms, on January 6.

The godparents are Mr David Loyd, Mr Michael Waterhouse (for whom The Hon Peter Morrison, MP, stood proxy), Mrs Peter Troughton and Mrs Michael Wentworth-Stanley (for whom Miss Angela Bowlby stood proxy).

Luncheon

Butchers' Company
Mr David Cornell, Master of the Butchers' Company, presided at a court luncheon held at Butchers' Hall, yesterday. Mr Robert Cornell and Mr Albert Seatory, president of the National Federation of Meat Traders, also spoke.

Association of Surgeons

The Duke of Edinburgh has accepted the patronage of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland.

OBITUARY

MR ALVAR LIDELL

Doyen of radio announcers



Mr Alvar Lidell, one of the most admired of BBC news readers and announcers, died on January 7 at the age of 72. His was a household name in the Second World War when announcers were first allowed to say who was reading the news.

Though he was a reader of news and not a writer of it his clear enunciation joined to a fine manly voice seemed in good times and bad—and there were many of these in the Second World War—to create a kind of confidence among his hearers so that they felt that what he was saying was copperbottomed and A1 at Lloyd's.

He had a profound distaste for the tendency of modern newsreaders to personalize the material they were reading. A year or two ago in an article in *The Listener* he attacked false stresses, deliberately distorted inflections and "opinionated" newscasters.

His was the voice which announced the abdication of King Edward VIII and in September, 1939 introduced from Downing Street the historic broadcast by Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain which gave the news that Britain was at war with Germany. He stood behind Chamberlain, leaning over his shoulder to speak into the microphone. He retired in 1969.

He had in later years a period with the Third Programme which was much to his taste as he was extremely musical, played the piano well and had a good tenor voice.

Though often regarded as the beau ideal of announcers and a notable exponent of spoken English he was a full-blooded Swede christened Tord Alvar Quan Lidell and he was born in 1908. His father was in the timber trade and came to Britain in the 1890s. Prospects were good and the Lidells settled here. Alvar was educated at King's College School, Wimbledon and Exeter College, Oxford. He was destined for a job with H.M.V. but the slump put a stop to this prospect and he taught for a while and also acted before taking up a post as an announcer with the BBC in Birmingham. In 1933 he was transferred to London. Apart from announcing he was heard in a number of music programmes in which items for speaker and orchestra were performed and for these his musical bent stood him in good stead. After his retirement he recorded hundreds of "talking books" for the blind.

Tall and handsome he was always highly professional in his work. He never forgot his Swedish heritage and kept up seasonal Swedish customs at his home in Northwood, Middlesex.

PROFESSOR KAZIMIERZ MICHALOWSKI

N. R. writes:

The death on New Year's Day of Kazimierz Michalowski, Vice-Director of Warsaw's National Museum, has deprived Poland and Europe of an archaeologist of world repute and a man of noble character. He was in his eightieth year.

Born in Eastern Poland, and educated at Lwów University in the early days after the First World War of reunited Poland, he quickly made a name for himself as a classical archaeologist of profound scholarship, boundless energy and attractive personality. Egypt and the Mediterranean became his lifelong passion. His enthusiasm, courtesy and competence won him friends everywhere.

From 1937 to 1939 he was in charge of Franco-Polish excavations in Egypt, and after the Second World War he directed work in the Crimea, Egypt, Sudan, Syria and Cyprus. He became chairman of international archaeological associations and institutes, and collaborated fruitfully with Unesco. Prizes and honorary doctorates showered down upon him from many nations.

His lectures were as polished and elegant as Michalowski himself. He seemed equally at home in French, English, German, Italian and Russian. He took easily to television. In 1978 he attended the Congress in London of Classical Archaeologists.

Saving the Faras Basilica's treasures from the rising Nile above the Aswan Dam (1961-1964) was perhaps his outstanding achievement. Research convinced him that a great basilica lay buried under a hill of sand; he successfully negotiated, with Unesco and the Sudanese Government, agreements on the excavation and on the division between Khartum and Warsaw of whatever was found; his energy ensured that the work was completed before the Nile covered the site; magnificent frescoes were skilfully detached and safely transferred to galleries in Khartum and Warsaw. Later he wrote a distinguished book on Faras.

By his work Michalowski proudly showed the world that Poland had become preeminent in the skills of excavation, conservation, restoration and display. He claimed good-humouredly that much of the credit belonged to the Nazis, who had provided Poland with so much practice in restoration and rebuilding. Some years later the National Museum in Warsaw sent to the Teutonic Knights' castle at Marlbork a heroic picture of the medieval battle of Gruenwald at which the Knights were routed by the Poles. The hanging of the vast picture in the Knights' great dining hall appealed to Michalowski's patriotism and humour.

Michalowski was wonderfully supported by his talented wife Krystyna Baniewicz. They maintained, despite the practical difficulties, a delightful country home at Podkowa Lesna just outside Warsaw. Like so many Poles Michalowski was a countryman at heart, craving the peace provided by trees and animals (he was devoted to a large and unruly dog) as an antidote to a busy professional and social life in Warsaw.

His widow, a son and a daughter survive him.

MR FRANK SYKES

C. Y. writes:

In addition to many years of service to local government and to the Conservative Party in Wiltshire, where he had farmed the same land for over 50 years, Frank Sykes made an outstanding contribution not only to British but also to tropical agriculture, his interest in which led to his appointment to the Royal Commission on East Africa in 1953.

He was one of a small band of scientific farmers who, after the war, set out to discover all that science had to offer to livestock and arable husbandry. His appointment as Agricultural Adviser to King George VI at Windsor in 1950 was an indication of his pre-eminence.

First, through his growing consultancy practice and later through his work on the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society of England, his scientific methods and thinking and his close co-operation with the Ministry of Agriculture's Advisory Service helped to bring in the agricultural revolution. As a member of the RASE Fact Finding Committee in 1960, he played a major role in bringing about the return to its historic role of the society which is enshrined in its motto "Practice with Science".

Later when the RASE saw the need to expand its international work, it was Frank who made all the contacts in Europe which resulted in the numerous national pavilions being established at the Royal Show and in a large increase in the attendance of foreign buyers of equipment and livestock. The international side of the Royal Show of today is one of his greatest contributions.

His great work for agriculture was recognized in 1974 when the RASE Gold Medal for Distinguished Services to Agriculture was presented to him. During the last year of his life he acted as deputy president to the Duke of Edinburgh. This office was the one which gave him the greatest pleasure, and was a fitting finale to a great career.

He was made CBE in 1979 and was a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour.

PROFESSOR PETER CLASSEN

Professor D. E. Luscombe writes:

Professor Peter Classen, one of the outstanding German historians of his generation, died after a short illness on December 23.

As Professor of Medieval History in the University of Heidelberg he became very well known to English-speaking Medievalists through numerous visits to this country and to the United States, particularly following his tenure of a Visiting Fellowship at Churchill College, Cambridge in 1972. A pupil originally of W. Berges, his many studies ranged widely over the history of the Medieval Empire and Church from Charlemagne onwards, the most substantial being a book on Gerhoh of Reichersberg.

He had a superb mastery of the skills needed to use original historical sources; he was also a vivacious colleague, staunch in his defence of academic standards and a warm admirer of British universities.

LENNIE FELIX

Lennie Felix, the British jazz pianist, died in London on December 29 as a result of injuries received in a road accident. He was 60.

Born on August 16, 1920, he played with the traditional jazz bands of Freddie Randall and Harry Gold in the early 1950s and subsequently became known as a solo pianist, noted for his mastery of the boogie-woogie idiom, and as the leader of his own trio.

Colonel Harold Leslie Hopkins, CIE, OBE, who served during both world wars and was General Manager of the Bombay Port Trust from 1944 to 1945, died on January 2. He was Chief Docks Manager, Hull, from 1956 to 1959.

Miss Marjorie Moller, headmistress of Headington School, Oxford, 1934-59, and Warden of Denman College (National Federation of Women's Institutes), 1959-64, died on January 1 at the age of 81.

Science report

Astronomy: Jupiter's marked moon

By the Staff of *Nature*

For the past year scientists have been puzzling over a strange set of markings discovered on the surface of Europa, one of Jupiter's moons, during the flypast of the Voyager I and II spacecraft.

Now a group of geologists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, has developed a theory that could explain the markings. According to the theory, they represent cracks left in the surface during Europa's formation

The remarkable information relayed back to Earth by the two Voyager spacecraft was dominated by spectacular pictures of erupting volcanoes on Io, another of Jupiter's moons. Since scientists have had time to examine the material more closely, some of the less spectacular but no less surprising discoveries are being discussed.

One such discovery was the absence of craters on Europa, which is marked instead by straight, thin dark lines known as lineaments. One lineament almost encircles the moon, but most of them are short, relative to Europa's size.

Some of the lineaments cross each other to form three or more sided polygons. Although small polygons are quite common in rocks on earth, resulting from cracking under tension or compression during cooling, those on Europa are unlike any seen elsewhere. The question therefore is: how were they formed?

Although a direct investigation of Europa's interior is clearly impossible, some clues are available. One clue comes from the lack of craters, implying that the surface had developed recently in terms of geological time. Another clue is Europa's gravitational field, which is weaker than the moon's size would suggest. That indicates that its interior cannot be very dense: certainly it must be less dense than other rocky bodies such as the Earth's Moon or Io. Such a density would be explained if Europa contained a lot of water, a supposition supported by the fact that its surface consists predominantly of ice.

But what effect would a high proportion of water in Europa's structure have on its evolution? Conventional wisdom has it that when Jupiter and its moons coalesced from a large cloud of gas and dust several billion years ago, Europa formed from a mixture of silicate minerals (particularly the common mineral, olivine) and ice.

After formation, the silicate settled down to form a large rocky core about 3,000 kilometres across, surrounded by a mixture of water and ice. After further cooling the water froze, to produce an icy mantle about 150 kilometres thick.

The geologists at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory dispute that conventional wisdom, arguing that during the early stage of Europa's development, the water and silicates would have reacted to form new minerals: serpentine, chlorite and brucite. Most of the water would therefore be incorporated into the main body of the moon, leaving a relatively small amount to form an icy crust just a few kilometres thick.

That new theory makes possible an explanation of Europa's markings. As in the case of the Earth, Europa's interior would have been heated by the decay of radioactive isotopes within the rocky material. The heating would cause an increase in temperature, first near the moon's centre, progressing towards the surface with time.

Because water is driven out of rocks at sufficiently high temperatures, the water incorporated in Europa's rocky interior would have been pushed out towards the rocks nearer the surface, causing them to expand. That global expansion would cause the surface to crack, explaining the presence of the lineaments.

The compressions and tensions in the surface rocks, resulting from the effects of the expansion combined with other internal forces such as the effect of Jupiter's gravitational pull, could explain the formation of other cracks giving rise to the polygonal patterns.

Source: *Nature* January 1/8 (vol 288, pages 17, 21, 24) 1981.

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Latest appointments

Mr Alan Hart, head of sport for BBC Television since 1977, who is to be Controller of BBC 1 in succession to Mr Bill Cotton, who was recently made deputy managing director of the corporation's television service.

Other appointments include:

Dr John Becklake to be keeper of the department of electrical engineering and communications at the Science Museum in succession to Mr Walter Winton.

Legal

Mr D. W. Falconer, QC, to be a High Court judge in the Chancery division in succession to Mr Justice Graham.

Embarrassment of tour riches for theatres

By Martin Huckerby

The number of opera, ballet and drama productions touring Britain is so great that the Arts Council is finding it difficult to arrange schedules with big regional theatres, Mr Jack Phipps, the council's director of touring, said yesterday.

Such had been the growth in regional touring that most of the big theatres in the main centres outside London were well booked, a situation inconceivable five years ago. The council found it difficult to work out the dates for tours.

Mr Phipps believed that in future the council would try to improve the quality of touring productions rather than the quantity.

In drama, which has been the weakest area of touring, he felt that the council got better value for money by supporting tours by the National Theatre than it did in subsidizing the Old Vic company, which has just lost its council grant.

A tour by the National costs the council about £20,000 a week; the Old Vic, touring for 16 weeks with an annual subsidy of £300,000, costs little less, £18,750 a week.

If the Old Vic wanted to take a production on tour next year council support was still possible. But there had been a cut in the allocation of money to drama touring and Mr Phipps said there was no plan to replace the Old Vic's regular touring with another company.

Announcing touring plans for the spring season, Dr Richard Hoggart, the council's vice-chairman, said it wanted to improve access to the arts at the highest level.

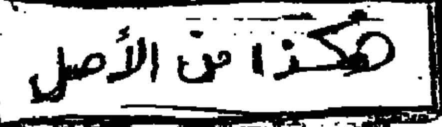
A Turner returns to Agnew

Christie's first sale in the United States this year of Old Master and nineteenth-century drawings and watercolours made a total of $443,445 (£182,487) in New York on Wednesday. Five per cent was unsold.

Agnew, the London dealer, paid $19,000 (£7,818) for "Abbeville", by J. M. W. Turner. It is a view across the town's market place to the high buildings of the Church of St Wolfram.

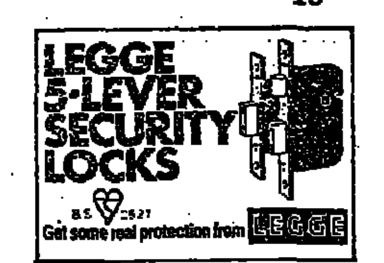
It is the fourth time Agnew have bought the work at auction, on each occasion at Christie's. They paid 265 guineas for it in 1877, 170 guineas in 1878 and 210 guineas in 1917.

A private collector paid $34,000 (£13,991) for "The Adoration of the Magi" by Giovanni Battista Castello, il Genovese. It had been given by Pope Gregory XVI to Don Giuseppe, the brother of Cardinal Zurla of Crema, in 1834.





THE TIMES BUSINESS NEWS



■ **Stock markets**
FT Ind 459.3 down 0.9
FT Gilts 70.45 down 0.16

■ **Sterling**
$2.4045 down 85 points
Index 79.0 unchanged

■ **Dollar**
Index 86.0 up 0.6
DM1.9625 up 170 points

■ **Gold**
$575.00 down $2.50

■ **Money**
3 month sterling 14⅛-14⅞
3 months Euro $ 18-17⅞
6 month Euro $ 16⅞-16⅝

IN BRIEF

Dow Jones index falls in heavy selling

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 15.19 on Wall Street to close at 965.70 and declines led advances by 1,022 to 567.

Volume contracted to 55.53 million shares from a record 92.89 million traded the previous day.

The steep market fall on *Thursday came after Mr J. Granville, who publishes, the Granville Market Letter*, sent telegrams to clients to sell because the market had "peaked".

Man who shook market, page 15

Polish debt talks

A delegation from Poland's foreign trade bank, Bank Handlowy, was to arrive in London last night for further preparatory talks with British Treasury and Trade Department officials today, ahead of next Friday's inter-government talks in Paris.

Tartan field start-up



Production from the Tartan field in the North Sea, started yesterday as oil from the first producing well, above, began flowing through the 145-mile pipeline to the Flotta terminal in the Orkneys. Initially the oil will flow at around 10,000 barrels a day from the field, operated by Texaco, the United States multinational.

First SDR issue

The first certificates of deposit denominated in Special Drawing Rights have been placed following the launch of this new market in London on Wednesday. They were issued by Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to Charterhouse Japhet and another bank. Brokers to the issue were Godsell.

Zimbabwe credit line

United Kingdom companies will be able to obtain finance for exports to Zimbabwe of their capital goods and associated services under a £2m line of credit guaranteed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

£54m water contract

Paterson Candy International, a subsidiary of Portals Holdings, has won a £54m contract to supply and supervise the erection of plant for the Karkh scheme to supply drinking water to Baghdad, Iraq. The contract is expected to last for five years.

New Dan-Air service

Dan-Air, the British independent airline, is to open a scheduled service between Amsterdam and Berlin from April 1. The service will operate twice daily between Monday and Friday.

Port Talbot men endorse the MacGregor plan for survival

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

Workers at the Port Talbot plant of the British Steel Corporation in south Wales have accepted in principle the *corporation's survival plan.*

Production at the plant is to be increased, but a further 700 workers are to lose their jobs by the end of March taking total redundancies there to nearly 7,000 since the end of 1979.

The Port Talbot agreement *represents a significant step in* the corporation's attempts to win staff support for the strategy which involves a number of plant closures, the shedding of at least another 20,000 jobs and acceptance of a six-month wage freeze until the end of June.

The corporation is presently balloting its entire 130,000-strong workforce on the plan. Mr Ian MacGregor, the BSC chairman, has made it clear to the corporation's employees that their support for the plan, expressed through the ballot being conducted by the Electoral Reform Society, is an essential prerequisite for his negotiations to persuade the Government to provide a further £750m to BSC this year.

But the Port Talbot decision is also significant for other reasons. It was considered by many observers to be among plants most at risk when the plan was being formulated. Even though the plant was given a stay of execution when the plan was disclosed last month amid warnings of industrial unrest through the so-called "triple alliance" between the miners, steelworkers and railwaymen, its future beyond mid-year *remained uncertain.*

Equally it is now clear that negotiations with workers at plants throughout the corporation are being conducted on a multi-union basis. Further announcements of agreements are expected to be made by BSC in advance of the result of its ballot to be declared on January 16.

The strategy of negotiation at local level, however, has come under attack from the industry's principal union, the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, which is conducting its own ballot and which is urging its members to reject the corporate plan. Mr William Sirs, *the general secretary of the* ISTC, earlier this week attacked the BSC and accused the management of pre-empting its own ballot. As part of the same exercise BSC has put forward plans for cutting 3,700 jobs on Teesside.

Unions representing craft and general workers have advised their members to accept the plan and similar advice is being given by the National Union of Blastfurnacemen and the Steel Industry Management Association.

The discussions with representatives of the Port Talbot workforce began before Christmas. Last night BSC said that as a result of the agreement in principle, 700 more jobs would be lost, affecting all grades, by the end of March but production would be scaled up from the 1.4 million tonnes of liquid steel under the so-called "slimline" scheme for the south Wales steel plants, to 1.7 million tonnes a year. The further reduction in the labour force is designed to improve productivity and cut costs.

Under the original "slimline" operation, the labour force was to be reduced from 12,500 to 6,200. About 400 under that programme but by the end of the exercise the plant labour force will be reduced to 5,500.

The corporate plan requires a cutback in BSC's overall crude steel production from 15 million tonnes annually to 14.4 million tonnes. The hoped for reduction in costs will lead to more competitive prices and higher sales of steel, producing benefits for employees through locally negotiated lump sum bonus schemes.

BSC is this year receiving more than £1,000m of government cash and Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary, is expected to make a statement on the corporate plan later this month.

UK settles Indonesia trade dispute after talks on textile quotas

Jakarta, Jan 8.—Tentative settlement today of a six-month-old trade dispute between Indonesia and Britain clears the way for several hundred million pounds worth of business, Mr John Nott, the former British Trade Secretary, said today.

He was speaking after two days of intensive discussions on garment exports with Mr Radius Prawiro, the Indonesian Trade Minister, and other Indonesian leaders.

Mr Nott, who was returning to London tonight to start his new job as Secretary for Defence, said he was providing the Indonesians with a list of projects and business in which Britain was interested.

A British Leyland representative said he believed a $3.5m (£1.5m) contract secured on Tuesday night for 25 double decker buses was concluded only because of Mr Nott's visit.

The minister said in an interview: "Today, we have got relations back on a rational, agreed basis and that's the best way to have it".

He said Mr Prawiro had assured him that business relations, badly threatened by the trade argument, would now be quickly reestablished, and they had already discussed potential British investment here.

The agreement, which has to be ratified by the European Commission, would allow Indonesia to send 700,000 shirts, 500,000 blouses and 800,000 men's shirts to Britain in 1981.

This is just under two-thirds of the total number of garments Indonesia exported to Britain last year, largely before the quota was announced.

It is considerably more than the July quota of 315,000 trousers, 171,000 men's shirts and 225,000 blouses, and will probably include a few garments still sitting in bond in Britain, according to official sources.—Reuter.

Derek Harris writes: It is expected in London that Brussels will not oppose the settlement with Indonesia. It is also felt that a reasonable bargain has been struck because of the number of British contracts that were at risk, initially involving some £10m worth of trade including grain processing equipment, bridge construction and aircraft sales.

But a large number of other contracts are now expected to go ahead, including many from the Indonesian public sector.

Although the new textile quotas are above those imposed by Britain for the first four months of this year, they are well below actual 1980 *imports in the case of trousers* and shirts. Last year Indonesia exported to Britain 1.6m trousers and 1.5m shirts. But only 231,000 blouses were imported compared with the new quota of 500,000.

Deal welcomed. The British Clothing Industry Association in a statement welcomed "with reservation" the agreement with Indonesia.

Mr Gerald French, the association's director, said: "We are pleased that the Government refused to give in to the excessive demands made by the Indonesians and that the quotas agreed for two product categories, trousers and shirts, are lower than 1980 import levels.

"However, it should be noted that the quota levels represent twice the 1979 import levels of trousers and blouses and four times the 1979 levels for shirts.

"We are disappointed that *the provisions contained within the Multi-Fibre Arrangement* designed to control such rapid increases in imports have not been more effectively applied."

Imports take record 56.7pc share of British new car market

By David Hewson

Foreign cars took a record share of Britain's car market during 1980—some 56.7 per cent—while domestic production fell to 13 per cent to its lowest level since 1957.

But BL's new Mini Metro has made an encouraging debut, becoming the nation's third most popular car in December, and there are signs that imports are on the wane.

According to the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, the Metro, cornerstone of BL's revival, was only a few hundred sales short of ousting the Ford Cortina from second place last month.

The recovery in BL's fortunes was indicated by its increase in market share to 22.19 per cent last month compared with 16.14 per cent a year previously.

Overall the State-owned car company took 18.22 per cent of the market, less than 1979's 19.63 per cent but higher than *many expected after BL's disastrous sales record at the* beginning of the year.

United Kingdom car output fell to 924,000, below the one million mark for the first time since 1957. In 1979 the industry produced 1.07 million cars and output had peaked in 1972 at 1.92 million, according to figures from the Department of Industry.

Manufacturers had expected production to bottom out at about 960,000 and the eventual figures have confounded even the worst estimates.

In the face of domestic output, the imports rate of 56.7 per cent of all sales compared with 56.28 during 1979. The Japanese lifted their market share to 10.8 per cent in 1979 to 11.9 per cent while imports from EEC countries, East Europe and Sweden fell. Imports from other countries, *mainly Spain, rose from 3 per* cent to 4.7 per cent of all sales.

In December, however, imports ran at 44.06 per cent, the lowest level since March, 1978, and the fourth consecutive month when imports were below the level of the same months in 1979. In December, *1979, almost six out of every 10* of all sales had been foreign cars.

Total sales during 1980 were the fifth highest ever recorded at 1.5 million, but 11.8 per cent below the record 1979 total of 1.7 million.

Ford took the three top sales places during the year with the Cortina, Escort and Fiesta, followed by BL's Austin Morris Mini, the Marina and its replacement, the Ital.

Ford increased its market share to 30.70 per cent from 28.29 per cent in 1979, the cars *being produced in Ford fac*tories in Britain, West Germany, Belgium, Ireland and Spain. The company's penetration in December was 34.56 per cent compared with 30.97 per cent the previous year.

Commercial vehicle production has been less badly hit. Output fell from 408,400 in 1979, the fourth highest figure of the decade, to 389,100 a reduction of 4.7 per cent.

Ford achieved its highest-ever market share of 32.9 per cent in the commercial sector sales, 11.5 per cent higher than its nearest rival, BL. More than one in six commercial vehicles sold during 1980 was a Ford Transit van. Overall sales fell by 11.4 per cent.

Dollar gains on hopes of interest rates rise

By Frances Williams

The dollar followed through Wednesday's recovery by making further gains against all major currencies in the London foreign exchange market yesterday.

Sterling proved considerably more resilient than continental currencies, though its rate against the dollar slipped by 85 points to $2.4045 at the close of trading. Its effective exchange rate against a basket of currencies was unchanged at 79.0.

The dollar ended London trading up 1.70 pfennigs at DM1.9625, having regained much of its losses at the beginning of the week. Its trade-weighted index was up 0.6 at 86.0.

The dollar's strength is largely the result of firmer Eurodollar interest rates, coupled with market expectations that interest rates in the United States are unlikely to fall from their present levels and may well rise again shortly.

These expectations came to the fore after Wednesday's statement by Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, that the Fed was determined to maintain tight money policies, and the Fed's decision on the same day to drain reserves from the banking system with the Federal funds rate at around 18¾ per cent.

This has been taken as an indication that the Fed does not wish interest rates to fall sharply.

Belief that United States interest rates may have bottomed out for the time being was strengthened when Chase Manhattan and the First National Bank of Chicago yesterday announced cuts in their prime rates from 20½ to 20 per cent.

This leaves Chemical Bank, which earlier in the week cut its prime rate to 19½ per cent, out of step.

Other big banks with prime rates at 20 per cent are Marine Midland and Morgan Guaranty. Most other leading banks remain at 20½ per cent.

The dollar was also helped yesterday by a prediction from Mr Fred Bergsten, Assistant Treasury Secretary, that the United States balance of payments would show a $10,000m surplus on current account in 1981.

Dealers attributed the relative strength of sterling to its status as a petro-currency and United Kingdom interest rates which, while lower than dollar rates, are the highest in Europe.

Kielland rig is declared a loss

By John Huxley

Alexander L. Kielland, the accommodation rig which *capsized in the North Sea last* March with the loss of 123 lives, has been declared a loss by its Norwegian insurers.

Compensation of 320m Norwegian kroner (about £25m) is to be offered to Stavanger Drilling, the owners of the rig at the time of the accident in which more than 30 Britons died. Lloyd's confirmed yesterday that about two-thirds of the loss value is covered by reinsurance in the London market.

The group of insurers made its decision after spending an estimated £5.6m in an aborted attempt to right the 10,000 ton rig, which is now lying in the Gandsfjord, near Stavanger. The salvage attempt, and subsequent operation to return the rig to its capsized position, were carried out by a consortium including SD Marine of Southampton.

The future of the rig, which still contains an estimated 39 bodies, remains unresolved, and the insurers yesterday said that their decision did not rule out the possibility that a further salvage attempt would be made.

The Norwegian Government has indicated that it wants the bodies recovered, and that the rig should be moved from its present location, where it is a potential hazard to other shipping.

Yesterday, an official of Storebrand, a leading member of the insurers' pool, said it was likely that the group would *assume ownership of the rig.* It was considering five offers to buy the rig but the names of the bidders have not been disclosed, although they are known to include Briscoe International of the United States.

SD Marine and its joint venture partner have already had talks with Briscoe about a new salvage attempt using the revolutionary computer-based techniques tried in the first attempt. The consortium maintains that these would have been successful had not the attempt been halted by the Norwegian authorities.

Talks over compensation for cancellation of the original contract are still going on.

Meanwhile, publication of the report of the official inquiry into the disaster which had been postponed is expected within the next few weeks.

The Kielland capsized in a heavy storm in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea after one of its five legs collapsed.

Nine Spillers directors share £1.7m payment

By Philip Robinson

Nine former directors of Spillers, the food group, left with "golden handshakes" totalling £1.7m, it was revealed yesterday. In addition a director of gambling group Coral Leisure resigned with a payment believed to be £200,000.

The Spillers group, now part of international meat group Dalgety, paid nine directors, including former chairman Mr Michael Verdon, a total of £1.7m for loss of office, which included a payment of £992,000 for pension rights.

They lost their jobs when Dalgety bought the group for £76m for the group in 1979. Spillers' last annual accounts show that, for his final year as chairman, Mr Vernon was paid £45,598 and had around four and a half years of his contract to run. The group's highest paid director received £55,295.

Mr David Donne, Dalgety chairman, said: "There are now no Spillers directors left and no further payments to be made. The last director left in July 1980, the majority went in June."

The accounts also show that, since last January, a house which was formerly owned by the company was sold to Mr Vernon for £155,000.

Mr J. Michael Hoare was managing director of Coral which was taken over by Bass the brewer last November in an £82.5m deal. There was still three years of his five-year contract to run at a current salary of £42,000.

But Mr Hoare said last night: "I have made an agreement with Bass that the amount of compensation I am being paid should not be disclosed. I have agreed a package with them whereby I will act as a consultant for them for six months, which changes the basis of the compensation payment".

Mr Hoare is the first Coral director to go under a management reshuffle at present being carried out by Mr Derek Palmar, the Bass chairman.

Mr Hoare joined Coral on a consultative basis in September 1976 and late was invited to be the group's first managing director. He played a major part in Coral's takeover of the Centre Hotels group and their buying of Pontin's holiday camps.

It is understood that the way Bass intend incorporating Coral is to dispense with the board of directors, selling Coral's head office building and eventually bringing the business under the direct control of the Bass main board.

Mr Hoare added: "I discussed the position with Mr Palmar and there was no obvious slot for me. It might be different with other Coral directors".

His departure cast an immediate question mark over the future of Mr Nicholas Coral, Coral's chairman. Under a former plan by Sir Maxwell Joseph's Grand Metropolitan to buy the group, Mr Coral would have received a £300,000 golden handshake. But Bass has already indicated that it does not consider itself bound by any previous agreements with other companies regarding compensation.

Mr Coral returned to the United Kingdom on Wednesday after being out of the country for some time. He is expected to be discussing his future with Mr Palmar over the next few days.

BP company in $10m US deal

By Bill Johnstone

Scicon, a wholly-owned *subsidiary of BP, has acquired* Systems Control Inc (SCI), of Palo Alto, California, for a sum thought to be over $10m (£4.17m).

SCI is similar to the systems consultancy side of Scicon. It is involved in applying advanced engineering and computer methods to solve a wide range of problems in energy, defence, and transportation.

The acquisition will enhance Scicon's American operation which presently employs only a handful of people in San Francisco.

SCI, which was formed in 1969, has 500 staff and a turnover of $25m.

The deal will mean that Scicon has a total of 2,000 employees and a projected turnover in 1981 of £60m, counting its sister company in Germany and its computer bureau operation in Milton Keynes, Buckinghamshire.

SCI's main operations outside America will give Scicon bases in South America, the Middle East and China.

SCI's principal office is in Palo Alto, with branches in Washington DC, Florida, Brazil, Columbia and Belgium. The company also operates in Mexico, Venezuela and Saudia Arabia.

Scicon is hoping to provide a range of computer related services, and with SCI's help hopes to qualify to bid for NATO contracts in the middle East and United States defence contracts.

The deal is expected to be completed on February 28.

Rank to restructure management

By Andrew Goodrick-Clarke
Financial Editor

Rank Organisation, one of Britain's leading profit earners mainly because of its investment in the Rank Xerox copying machine business, is to rearrange its management structure.

At the same time, Mr Harry Smith, the group's chairman, says he will retire in April 1982 to be succeeded by Mr Russell Evans, aged 58, the present group managing director.

The organizational changes will reduce the present 11 divisions to four. One casualty is Mr Edmond Chilton, aged 51, who has been with Rank for 25 years and who was one of two group executive directors directly under Mr Evans.

Mr L. H. Bond, director of personnel and corporate relations for Rank, said that the departure of Mr Chilton, who was responsible for leisure services and hotels, was amicable. He would be compensated strictly in accordance with the terms of his contract.

Some of Mr Chilton's responsibilities are now taken over by Mr Bobby Butlin, aged 46, son of Sir Billy Butlin, the late holiday camp operator. He joined the main board of Rank last month and now becomes managing director of a new hotels and holidays division.

Mr Brian Smith, aged 52, will become deputy managing director of the group, and will succeed Mr Evans as managing director of Rank next year.

Mr Jim Daly, aged 42, is to be managing director of a new film and television services division, and Mr L. Small, who is due to retire later this year becomes managing director of a new Rank leisure division until May. He will then be succeeded by Mr Angus Crichton-Miller, aged 41.

The new structure replaces one created in 1976 by Mr Evans. At that time Sir John Davis, now president of Rank, *and the man credited with much of the company's growth* since the last war, stepped down from the chairmanship amid controversy over his autocratic and flamboyant management style.

Rank's decision to change its structure at this stage is partly due to decisions to withdraw from film production and from television manufacture.



Mr Russell Evans: to become chairman of Rank next year.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

AKZO	15p to 350p	*East Dagga*	*10p to 113p*
Arb-Latham	10p to 249p	Elect Rental	7p to 97p
J. Bibby	10p to 232p	Hammerson 'A'	19p to 595p
Burnett H'shire	15p to 858p	L. Joseph	15p to 198p
Dana	$1 7/32 to $10¼	Triplex Found	2p to 30p

Falls

De La Rue	20p to 755p	Kinross	42p to 686p
Farnell Elect	20p to 359p	Middle Wits	50p to 850p
Gas & Oil Acre	10p to 470p	ML Hldgs	20p to 250p
Global Nat Res	50p to 405p	Rustenburg	25p to 240p
Husky Oil	20p to 710p	Western Areas	34p to 353p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells		Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.10	2.02	Norway Kr	12.82	12.27
Austria Sch	35.00	33.00	Portugal Esc	134.00	126.00
Belgium Fr	78.50	75.00	South Africa Rd	2.19	2.06
Canada $	2.92	2.84	Spain Pta	194.50	186.00
Denmark Kr	15.05	14.35	Sweden Kr	10.92	10.42
Finland Mkk	9.61	9.16	Switzerland Fr	4.41	4.20
France Fr	11.20	10.75	USA $	2.46	2.39
Germany DM	4.87	4.65	Yugoslavia Dnr	83.50	78.50
Greece Dr	132.50	125.50			
Hongkong $	12.75	12.15			
Ireland Pd	1.31	1.25			
Italy Lir	2310.00	2200.00			
Japan Yn	508.00	482.00			
Netherlands Gld	5.30	5.07			

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

Cement maker's diversion needed to quarry limestone under road

Company invests £5m in rerouting the A1

Blue Circle, the cement maker, has spent £5m to divert a section of the A1, the main London-Edinburgh trunk route, so it can dig a hole in the original road. Traffic used the new four-mile stretch, near Dunbar, East Lothian, for the first time this week.

The diversion is believed to be the biggest—perhaps the only—alteration to a trunk route ever financed by a private company. Yesterday, the Department of Transport was unable to provide any other recent examples, although it explained that it was not uncommon for local authorities, and especially new towns or development authorities, to pay for roads to be moved.

In recent years the A5 at Milton Keynes and the M54 near Telford have been built or rebuilt elsewhere at local expense.

Blue Circle's venture into road building when trunk programmes have almost come to a standstill was part of a £24m programme to develop the company's Dunbar works, which comprise the only cement manufacturing plant in Scotland.

The diversion will allow Blue Circle to develop a new quarry, supplying the works with limestone and shale which is lying beneath the original road. It will give access to an estimated 80 million tonnes of limestone, sufficient raw material to maintain annual production of one million tonnes from the works.

The idea of diverting the A1 dates back more than 10 years, when Blue Circle first submitted planning proposals for a new quarry at Dunbar. It was seen as a logical continuation of the quarrying operation, which began when the works opened in 1963.

In the past decade, however, the cost of the diversion has multiplied, as the proposals made slow progress over a long series of bureaucratic obstacles.

The new road has been built to Department of Transport specifications, according to designs by the highways department of Lothian Regional Council on behalf of the Scottish Development Department. It includes two reinforced concrete bridges, carrying the A1 and a side road over the main London-Edinburgh railway line, plus two culverts for streams.

Before new material can be taken from the new quarry, some 2.5 million cubic metres of overlying waste material must be removed. Among the equipment which will handle this "overburden" is a transporter with a 145-metre boom, one of the largest of its kind in the world.

The £2.3 machine will be brought by sea to the port of Leith and taken by road to the site. At one time, it was suggested that it might be landed on a near by beach and transported across a golf course to the quarry. This was eventually dropped out of respect to the greens.

Blue Circle is well satisfied with its—of the country's—new road. Moreover, it was built with cement from the Dunbar works.

John Huxley

Lions reject higher sugar production

Increased beet sugar production within the European Community was "unjustified and represents a dangerous trend", according to the House of Lords committee on the EEC in a report published yesterday.

The committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Walston, a former Labour Minister, had examined draft regulations put forward by the European Commission on sugar production. It received evidence from the British Sugar Corporation, the Cake and Biscuit Alliance, the London Port Refiners, trade unionists, Tate and Lyle and the Transport and General Workers Union.

It concluded that, in spite of the high prices prevailing on world markets, the level of European sugar production and exports remains too high, in view of the cyclical nature of the international sugar market.



Antitrust trial to go ahead

A United States district court has ordered that the Justice Department's civil antitrust case to break up the American Telephone & Telegraph Co, should go to trial as planned on January 15, despite a request by both sides for a postponement because of what the court called agreement on a framework for a settlement.

Lawyers for both sides made the request orally to Judge Harold H. Greene, who has been prodding the parties to move faster in the six-year-old Sherman Act case.

Judge Greene denied the request in a tartly worded six-page order issued hours after AT & T and Mr Sanford M. Litvack, the assistant attorney general, confirmed a report published in the *Washington Star* that settlement talks had been under way and had made progress.

The judge said he was refusing to postpone the start of the trial because he regarded the settlement talks as incomplete.

Tokyo interest plea

The Bank of Japan has been urged to reduce further the official discount rate at an early date from the present 7.25 per cent a year. The requests for a rate reduction came separately from Mr Toshio Komoto, director-general of the official Economic Planning Agency, and Mr Shigeo Nagano, president of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry. *The size* of the previous cutbacks by the bank has been considered unsatisfactory by industry leaders.

US surplus expected

Mr C. Fred Bergsten, the United States assistant treasury secretary, said in Washington he expects a current account surplus of $5,000m (about £2,083m) in 1980, and a surplus of $10,000m in 1981. The 1980 surplus would be achieved by a $25,000m deficit in the mer*chandise trade sector, and a* $30,000m surplus in the services sector, he said.

Alcohol in petrol

M André Giraud, the French industry minister, will introduce a plan soon to encourage the use of vegetable-based alcohol in petrol, a ministry spokesman said in Paris. The ministry refused to confirm or deny a report that the plan would start with a decree allowing oil companies to dilute petrol with up to 15 per cent alcohol.

Ula field costs mount

BP Petroleum Development of Norway is looking at ways to reduce soaring development costs for the Ula field in the Norwegian sector of the North Sea, a spokesman said in Oslo. Development costs under present plans could rise by about 40 *per cent from original esti*mates of 7,200m crowns (about £587m).

Uranium pact row

Australian Opposition members have criticized an agreement signed on uranium sales to France on grounds that safeguards were inadequate. Mr Thomas Uren, the former deputy prime minister, described France as having a record of gross irresponsibility in nuclear matters.

Honda-Fiat talks

Honda, Japan's fifth-largest car maker, is negotiating an agreement with Fiat of Italy to manufacture motor cycles in Italy. *Honda already turns out* 3,000 motor cycles a month in Italy through IAP Industrial Corp, which is 56.2 per cent owned by Honda.

Reagan tax cut date

Financial advisers to Mr Ronald Reagan, the American President-elect, have still not decided whether a 10 per cent tax cut for 1981 should begin on January 1 or July 1, Mr Kevin Hopkins, a Reagan administration spokesman said in Washington.

Swiss retail sales up

Swiss retail sales in November 1980 were 3.6 per cent higher than in October and were up 7.8 per cent from November 1979, the federal government says, noting that the increase resulted largely from greater sales of food, beverages and tobacco.

Orders index falls

The index of incoming orders for West German manufacturing industry, base 1976, fell 2.9 per cent seasonally adjusted in November after an upwards revised 1.9 per cent October rise, provisional economics ministry figures in Bonn show.

Wine output slump

France's wine production was 17.2 per cent below that of 1979, because of bad weather. French growers produced 69.2 million hectolitres of wine last year, compared with 83.5 million hectolitres in 1979.

Budget deficit steady

The French government's budget deficit for the first 11 months of 1980 stood at 41,590m francs (about £3,880m), only slightly above the shortfall of 41,110m francs in the same period of 1979, the economics *ministry said* in Paris.

In last quarter 160 businesses on average ceased trading every week

Record number of liquidations

More companies than ever went out of business in 1980, according to Dun & Bradstreet, the business information group. In the final quarter of the year an average of 160 companies a week went into liquidation.

By the end of the year 6,814 companies had gone into liquidation in England and Wales, 30 per cent of them in the final three months of the year. The deepening recession not only put more companies out of business than in any single previous year but also increased commercial debt, and reduced new starts.

Although about 143,000 new firms or partnerships were at least provisionally registered in 1980, of which 67,000 were new companies, Dun & Bradstreet says that a better economic climate would almost certainly have seen more new companies emerging.

Meanwhile, the commercial debts of surviving companies passed on for collection to Dun & Bradstreet alone rose above £33m last year; and the number of bankruptcies rose by 10 per cent, ending a falling trend since 1976, when industry began to recover from the *slump of 1974-75.*

Compulsory liquidations of companies rose 49 per cent to 3,068 last year and voluntary liquidations jumped by 51 per cent.

Not surprisingly, credit became far harder to obtain, even for well-regarded "household" names in industry; and at the same time, companies became understandably anxious to restrict the credit facilities extended to customers, particularly as they cut back spending on their own promotion.

Even in the prosperous South, some companies were sufficiently hard-pushed to get rid of surplus goods that they accepted "very bad credit risks" to win sales, and delayed paying their own debts in the meantime.

Shipping and freight handling companies were notably guilty of delaying payment, and steel users, like car manufacturers, suffered cash flow difficulties. Small boatbuilders in the South also had difficulty in getting credit.

But it was the industrial North and Midlands that really suffered from falling demand and credit squeezes. In the North and North-east, where the textile trade's decline accelerated, there have been many problems in raising credit, and debt collection has been speeded up and passed on to the agencies much earlier than usual.

Similarly, in the North-west the recession has meant both tougher debt collection tactics and a rise in bad debts. Building and contracting companies and those supplying the motor trades have been the worst hit.

In the Midlands, where industry is very nervous, companies have hesitated to press for prompt payment of debts for fear of losing custom which has not aided their own cash flow.

As usual, *it is the smaller* companies which are least willing or able to press for payment. But it seems that Dun & Bradstreet's Midland clients hate to write off a bad debt, and "will go to all possible lengths to recover money owed to them" although it is not specified what these lengths may be.

In Scotland and Wales, "even amusement machine manufacturers are chasing small debts owed to them by clubs and amusement arcades," the report says.

More small businessmen in Wales have found a simple answer to their problems and "moved" overnight, leaving a pile of unpaid bills behind.

In Scotland, where orders are well down and textile and engineering businesses are vanishing fast, lack of cash is preventing debts being pursued through the courts. However, the long list of closures and the lack of orders led to demand for credit falling off in the last two months of 1980, after a steady rise for most of the year.

Business is apparently less buoyant for the "business in*formation" and debt collection* agencies in Northern Ireland. Dun & Bradstreet is exhorting industry to check their customers' credit standing there very carefully, as more companies go into liquidation.

Catherine Gunn

Orders for chemical complex may bring 10,000 man-years of work

By John Huxley

Up to 10,000 man-years of *work for process plant suppliers* could be provided by orders for the £300m ethylene cracker being built by Esso Chemical at Mossmorran in Fife.

Contracts to supply the heavier items of equipment for the complex are expected to be placed in the first quarter of this year, and the value of those for hardware alone is put at *about £140m.*

The Process Plant Asociation, whose members have been struggling to survive the gradual drop in orders over recent years, has been pressing hard to ensure that the bulk of these orders are placed in the United Kingdom.

Yesterday, representatives from about 100 process plant *companies attended a presentation* by Mr Jimmy Knox, Esso's project executive, at which the company's policy on plant ordering was outlined. Lummus, the main contractor, was also represented.

The meeting in London was the first occasion on which industry leaders have met a large potential client together. Later, the Process Plant Association said that the experiment would probably be repeated.

Mr Tony Taylor, president of the association and a director of Babcock International, said *that the meeting had helped to* create "the right climate in which our members can market and sell process plant for major projects.

"Members now have a much better idea of Esso's requirements and, indeed, of their problems. This is the only petrochemical plant of any real size due for construction in the immediate future and could represent as many as 10,000 jobs for 12 months in the process plant industry."

Next week, the association *will have talks with officials* at the Department of Industry, whose support it has tried to enlist in its campaign to win a large share of the Mossmorran contracts.

Esso has made it clear that it would prefer, if possible, to place the majority of contracts in the United Kingdom, and that it sees clear advantages in doing so. Lines of communication with *suppliers would be* short, for example.

However, Mr Knox is understood to have emphasized again the priority attached by Esso *to quality, delivery on schedule,* and price when ordering.

Among the issues raised by association members was the effect on the competitiveness of British tenders of present domestic and overseas steel prices.

Mr Harry Hornsby, the association's director general, explained that there was confusion over price comparison, although it seemed that some large users of British steel were at a disadvantage when competing with overseas rivals. *However, the British Steel* Corporation had indicated that it would help by showing "flexibility" in its dealings with large users.

The process plant industry has an annual turnover of about £2,000m and employs about 100,000 people.

Prices of canned beers set to rise

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

A rise in canned beer prices to the take-home trade, represented largely by the supermarkets, is expected to go through from many brewers this month, effectively adding 4p to large cans.

In most cases it means the first increase for a year. Prices charged to the take-home trade have been the target of increasing criticism from public house tenants, who feel the brewers *have been discriminating* heavily in favour of the supermarkets in order to increase their individual market shares.

Mr Arnold Elliott, president of the National Union of Licensed Victuallers (NULV), the tenants' trade association, yesterday welcomed the price increases as a "responsible action" by the brewers. But he said *it was "not enough".* It barely restored the balance between prices to the take-home and public house sectors. Whereas prices to the supermarkets would hold for a year, those to the public houses would not necessarily do so, he said.

Allied Breweries is raising its canned beer prices and Bass will do so by the middle of the month. Courage, the Imperial Group subsidiary, is expected to raise prices this month and Whitbread is believed to be considering increases next *month.*

The wholesale price rises represent increases of around 13 per cent.

Average beer prices in brewery-owned outlets rose by around 21 per cent in the year to last autumn, compared with 12.8 per cent in supermarkets and 14.7 per cent in the clubs, it has been claimed by Mr Colin Mitchell, a leading drinks analyst at Buckmaster & Moore, the London brokers.

Mr Mitchell has been among those warning that such wide differences in pricing could Jeopardize tied houses. The NULV has become increasingly anxious at the number of public house closures. It fears closures will increase this year despite the brewers' moves on prices to supermarkets. Canned beer, largely sold through supermarkets, accounts for more than 10 per cent of total beer production.

Brewers could still continue to give supermarkets advantages such as low-price promotional offers and longer credit periods. Mr Mitchell has claimed that some beers have in the past been sold as loss-leaders to supermarkets.

But Mr Mitchell has forecast that more brewery closures are *likely, to reduce the imbalance* between production and demand. He also believes brewers will now offer fewer low-price promotions and less generous credit terms.

The NULV has already noticed some signs of a decline in special offers. There is a growing belief in the trade that advantageous free trade *loans, benefiting the clubs,* are on the decline.

The brewers, faced with probable further downturns in production over the next few months are under pressure to improve their individual market shares in the free trade.

Stewards 'unhappy' on Leyland strike vote

By Clifford Webb

Workers at Leyland Vehicles' Albion plant, near Glasgow, yesterday voted by a narrow *majority to strike if management* adopted compulsory measures to achieve 380 redundancies.

But shop stewards were not *happy with the poor overall* turnout at the meeting and the small majority of 43 for strike action. Only 820 of the 2,500 workforce attended the meeting.

Mr Jim McLean, shop stewards convener, said the vote was too close to give stewards a clear mandate for action. The indications are that it will not be put to the test. Management is confident that on past experience it will find sufficient volunteers.

The meeting called for additional short-time working as an alternative to redundancies but this had already been taken into account when the redundancies were announced last month.

The present one-week-on and one-week-off system affecting 80 per cent of the workforce is to be extended to everyone.

A spokesman for Leyland Vehicles, the commercial vehicle arm of BL, said, "Albion has a very important role in our recovery plans."

Some £7m will be invested there to modernize and prepare the way for a new gearbox complex which will go into production in 1982.

The Albion redundancies are *among a total of 2,600 scheduled* for Leyland Vehicles factories by the end of March. They include 800 at Bathgate, West Lothian, the group's medium truck plant, and 1,400 at three plants in Lancashire which produce the heaviest range.

Oil taxes threatening future investment

By Nicholas Hirst

Higher taxes on oil production, such as those recently announced by the British Government on North Sea output, could threaten future oil company investment.

Mr Dirk de Bruyne, head of the Royal Dutch/Shell group, said in London yesterday that the oil industry worldwide was investing $1.90 for every $1 of profit it made. It was prepared to continue doing so if it was *allowed to operate within* a secure fiscal framework which allowed assessment of potential risk and return.

But in recent years governments had raised taxes unexpectedly, restricted exploration and held down prices of products to uneconomic levels.

The recent decision of the United Kingdom Government to impose a 20 per cent supplementary oil revenue tax on North Sea producers was one example, he said.

In Bahrain, Mr David Howell, *the United Kingdom Secre*tary of State for Energy, said the West had an immense political commitment to reduce dependency on imported oil.

Addressing the Bahrain Society of Engineers during a brief visit to Gulf states, he said that one benefit from the Iran/Iraq war was that the consumers had been able to show to the producers that they had profited from the les*sons of 1973 and 1979.*

Mr Dirk de Bruyne: plea for secure fiscal framework.

State industry surplus 'should go to Exchequer'

By Our Energy Correspondent

The Treasury believes that surplus cash earned by nationalized industries should be directed to the Exchequer.

In its remarks on the 20th report of the Public Accounts *Committee of the House of* Commons, the Treasury says that where a nationalized industry builds up permanent surpluses, favourable consideration should be given to the use of specific powers to allow additional payments to be made to the Exchequer.

These powers are available in legislation covering some nationalized industries but not others. Where necessary, specific powers should be taken, the Treasury suggests, agreeing *with comments by the PAC that* surpluses should not remain with the nationalized industries.

Cash surpluses have, in fact, been built up by British Gas which has made them available to the Exchequer by paying into the National Loans Fund. But the Government has said it intends to impose a new gas levy which would have the *effect of reducing future sur*pluses.

The future of the British National Oil Corporation, which may also build up substantial oil surpluses, is subject to a Bill to be presented to Parliament in the present session.

Bumiputra community gets a chance to buy a stake in the economy

Malaysia goes into the unit trust business

Official Malaysian policy to ensure that the politically dominant Bumiputra community acquires 30 per cent of the corporate sector by 1990 gets a fillip today when the government transfers to the National Equity Corporation shares which it had acquired in a number of listed and unlisted companies.

The National Equity Corporation—or Permodalan Nasional Berhad, as it is officially known—was set up in 1976 with a paid-up capital of 200 million Malaysian dollars (about £40m) put up by the government. Its chairman is the recently-retired Tun Ismail Ali, the Bank Negara Malaysia (central bank) governor.

The transfer of shares will be the first step in an official plan, known as the New Economic Policy, to allow the average Bumiputra to have a stake in the economy. This would be done through an open-ended unit trust which the Permodalan would set up, probably in April.

Essentially, what the government is doing today is to transfer to the Permodalan the total shareholdings of a number of corporations it had set up and shares which it had acquired in listed companies operating in Malaysia.

In the first list are such companies as Bank Bumiputra, the big Malaysian Mining Corporation—formed to take up significant shareholdings in those tin mining companies whose leases ran out — and the Kontena National Transportation Company, which has the monopoly to haul containers from Malaysian ports.

In the second list are the minority holdings (in some companies just under 30 per cent) of blue chip companies such as Sime Darby, Kuala Lumpur Kepong, Highlands and Lowlands, Malaysian Tobacco Company, Batu Kawan Rubber, and the Chemical Company of Malaysia. Its latest purchase was most of the almost 28 per cent of Guthrie shares which Sime Darby had picked up in its attempt to take over that company.

Essentially, the Permodalan will concentrate on the acquisition of shares in above-average listed companies. These will be transferred to the National Unit Trust, which in turn will sell units to the Bumiputra public. Non-Bumiputra Malaysians will be excluded, unless they are employees of some of the companies which form the unit trust's portfolio.

The government already insists that prominent quoted companies wanting to *restructure their Malaysian operations to* include the 30 per cent Bumiputra stake, deal with the Permodalan. It has also said that the Permodalan will make repayment for the portfolio it acquired from the government.

But despite government largesse and help, the Permodalan faces a tough nine years ahead. It was estimated in 1976 that to achieve the target, an annual growth rate of 25.8 per cent was needed by the Bumiputras in the corporate sector but the actual rises were only 14.8 *per cent* a year until 1978.

Under the third Malaysia plan, it was estimated that Bumiputra investment in the corporate sector had to reach 24,000 million Malaysian dollars (about £5,000m) to achieve *its 30 per cent target* by 1990.

Yet by 1978 this was only 2,157 million dollars and to keep to the plan target this figure must rise by 1,821 million dollars a year between 1978 and 1990.

Since the whole exercise has political overtones, *the government has to ensure* that this amount and targets would be reached. This is why the Permodalan exercise is of such importance.

M. G. G. Pillai
in Kuala Lumpur

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Broader experience for engineers

From the Executive Secretary of the Council of Engineering Institutions

Sir, Your recent report ("Room *at the top for engineers*", December 22) on the professional backgrounds of those recently appointed chief executives in British industry disclosed that those with a sales and marketing background are most favoured while engineers do poorly by comparison.

It would be a cause for serious concern if these two routes *to the* top were to be seen as mutually exclusive. They are certainly not regarded in that light in Germany, for example. Many of the most able German engineers spend part of their working lives engaged in the commercial side of their firms' activity—particularly in marketing and sales. At the same time, the top management of German companies includes a much higher proportion of engineers than is common in the United Kingdom. The combination of engineering and commercial experience makes them widely employable in general management.

It seems unlikely that German industry adopts a policy of giving engineers commercial experience solely to improve their career prospects. It is much more likely that they see advantage in having strong engineering representation in the highest reaches of management provided the engineers have previous commercial experience. They may also consider the other side of the same coin and *conclude that the* marketing of high technology products benefits from a direct involvement of engineers.

In the selection of very senior executives, personal qualities are of course as important as professional background and, in any case, the practice in one country may not be entirely relevant to another. However, *the disparities* in this matter between the United Kingdom and Germany seem striking enough to deserve further study. Perhaps we should be working towards a situation in which more top executives describe their background as engineering *and* marketing rather than one or the other.

DENYS WOOD.
Council of Engineering Institutions.
2 Little Smith Street,
London SW1P 3DL.

Origins of building societies

From Mr John Girkin

Sir, In his letter (December 30) Mr W. Lunn, a building society manager, asked a very revealing question: "Why are we in the building societies different?"

Like some other people in the building society "move*ment", he seems* to have forgotten that these societies grew up in the nineteenth century as cooperative institutions under the control of their members and strongly motivated by mutual principles.

Current legislation is based on the assumption that they are still in practice mutual institutions. This is why they benefit from various privileges not available to banks or other companies. However, building societies have gradually left behind their mutual roots. Branch managers tend to adopt a paternalistic attitude to members. The interests of members, which ought to be paramount, are often subordinated to those of the societies' "business connexions"—as previous correspondence has shown.

At the top of every society sits a board of directors. These self-perpetuating oligarchies are made up of people who are invited on to the boards by existing directors. A major qualification seems to be that they should be friends of one *or two* existing board members. No ordinary member stands a chance of being elected.

Similarly, the ordinary member finds it extraordinarily difficult *to find* out about his society's affairs. It is even more difficult to influence them. Most annual general meetings are purely formal events *with only perfunc*tory reports to the membership.

Not surprisingly, building society directors and their employees like Mr Lunn have forgotten—or have decided to ignore—why building societies *ought* to be different.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN M. GIRKIN,
63, Dumpton Park Drive,
Broadstairs,
Kent.

Defending home industry

From Mr A. A. Benjamin

Sir, Mr Bourlet's letter *(December 30)* is an *undisguized* plea for consumerism. He proposes that we could evolve a "new CAP" (from which Britain suffers agriculturally) for cars, if Britain and, indeed, Europe is not flooded with Japanese cars—and others due soon apparently from Brazil and Eastern Europe. He sees Britain as a service economy and quotes *Cobden to suggest that* protectionism disturbs the peace. Twenty years of protectionism by many industrialized countries has caused no obvious war that *I can recall.*

He omits some hard realism. Like the protectionism by the Japanese and many other countries, which has effectively excluded imports while they build profitable home industries. Examples are numerous but cars, computers, telecommunications equipment and domestic electronics will *do.* *Like the fact* that there is a real threat that their "service" industries will colonize ours as do their manufacturing industries—because these service industries are based on a sound home manufacturing structure. An example is the strong advance by Japan and France in telecommunications, banking, international project management and information technology. Heaven forbid if consumerism becomes the dominant trading philosophy in Britain. What we need urgently *is significant new investment* in highly automated manufacture to make products which are well designed and innovative and which we can sell abroad. Furthermore, this investment should be made *against* a *national* industrial strategy reached with consensus by government and industry.

Our service industries in the past have flourished *because* of our manufacturing strength, not in spite of it. If we do not need car manufacturers, soon we shall not need steel, ships, turbines, aero *engines*, computers, electronics, etc—they will always be "relatively" (his word) cheaper elsewhere, because consumerism does not account for strategic capability, employment, technology spin-off and asset building within the nation.

Mr Bourlet's letter reminds me of the *real* danger. This lies in the concept that if one can buy a product cheaper from a state-subsidized, protectionist government somewhere, then that is preferable to the development and rebuilding of our own industries. Rich investment trusts, with their earnings coming from overseas investments will then pay the pensions of a sullen, cynical, largely unemployed British people, who will have no spare money to buy the cheaper imported consumerism Mr Bourlet applauds.

Neither British nor European industry will accept the concepts preached by Mr Bourlet—they are too *preoccupied* generating the wealth to sustain and build the service *industries* of the future.

A. A. BENJAMIN,
9 The Chequers,
West End Lane,
Pinner.

Saving business records

From Miss Anne Piggott

Sir, Recent correspondence *(December 23, January 2) on* archive resources has left unmentioned the predicament of business archives. The increase in the number of liquidations during the current recession has hastened the destruction of irreplacable business records. Local record offices, which lack staff resources for such purposes, are notified of liquidations in their areas by the Business Archives Council which encourages contact with the liquidators, particularly if companies were registered *before 1946. This can only* be partially successful given the size of the task; often the rescue operation is too late and records are permanently lost. Also, the closure of small, long established businesses can easily go unnoticed despite attempts to monitor those considered to be at risk.

Valuable records could therefore be saved for the nation if such firms were to contact the Business Archives Council or local record offices. Surviving businesses can also help to ensure *preservation of* archives for the nation by adhering to recommended standards for storage and maintenance, upon which ourselves *and many* record offices are only too willing to advise.

Yours faithfully,
ANNE PIGGOTT,
Head of Business Records
Business Archives Council,
Denmark House,
15 Tooley Street,
London SE1 2NP.

Credit card surcharges

From Mr F. H. Aldous.

Sir, As a major petrol retailer, we question the principle behind the surcharge on credit card transactions currently being imposed by many petrol filling stations. It is doubtful whether this was the immediate intention of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission report, with which we, in content, disagree when recommending that credit card companies should abandon the "non-discrimination" clause in favour of allowing traders the right to fix a different price for goods and services bought by credit card.

In the light of the fact that no decision has been reached on the commission's report, which is only now being discussed by the Office of Fair Trading, it is unfortunate that various petrol retailers, no strangers to opportunism, and supported by such organizations as the Motor Agents Association, are penalizing the motorist who pays for his petrol by credit card.

But why should a surcharge of 15p to 25p be introduced now when for years petrol filling stations have been accepting credit cards: which account for an average 20 per cent to 25 per cent of revenue. After all, credit cards are an established and acceptable method of payment. To discriminate against credit card users, some of whom already pay for this privilege, as is now being advocated by major petrol retail chains—all of whom have *jumped the* gun in levying a surcharge—is to go back on an agreement with credit card companies and deprive the motorist of a service he or she should expect by right upon entering the forecourt.

It is hardly surprising that having taken the decision ourselves not to levy a surcharge, we have recorded an increase in volume *sales: with new cus*tom, in particular, coming from motorists refusing to pay the surcharge.

But while we totally reject the idea of a surcharge, we nevertheless, support the argument for a reduction in the rate of commission charge to petrol retailers by the credit card companies. Two to 3 per cent is *definitely* too high, *particularly* in the case of smaller filling stations who pay about 2.9 per cent. We would rather see the rate of commission reduced to 1 per cent, and it *is to this end* that the Monopolies and Mergers Commission should have made their recommendations.

At the present time, credit card companies charge a com*mission out of proportion* to the work conducted. Much of the administration and documentation, claimed by the credit card companies to justify the *2 or 3 per cent commission,* is more than shared by the petrol filling station. In addition, the credit card companies receive unpaid, widespread exposure via the petrol station forecourt.

It remains to be seen whether or not the commission's recommendations are implemented, but for the present it appears their report has provided the *petrol retailer with yet another* excuse for a price rise.

FREDDIE ALDOUS,
Swan National Limited,
London W4 4HH.

National Giro

From Mr J. Whelan

Sir, With reference to the recent letters regarding credit cards versus cash, may I suggest National Giro transfers.

No cheque charges, statements name the payee, unlike normal bank statements, overnight clearance for the payee, in my experience a very civilized method of payment. I must just add one point. I was introduced to it by the banks refusal to accept electricity bill payments.

Yours faithfully
J. WHELAN,
41 Princess Road,
Edgbaston,
Birmingham, B5 7PU.

Mineral mining on the sea-bed

From Mr Roderick C. Ogley

Sir, As we enter a new decade we should be thinking of the future, and not just that of our own country. One major determinant of whether our children and grandchildren will enjoy a relatively peaceful *world* will be whether we can bequeath to them global *institutions in* whose workings all states would have an incentive to collaborate because all would *benefit from their success.*

In 1980 the long-drawn-out Law of the Sea Conference came close to producing a convention which, if generally ratified, will create an organi*zation unique,* so far, in our global history, the International Sea-Bed Authority. This will regulate, and tax, private and state exploitation of the international area of the *sea-bed* and *also*, through an organ called "the Enterprise", itself engage in ocean mining. At Geneva, in August, more than a hundred states, including all the major powers, expressed satisfaction with progress made at the latest session, and a draft convention emerged, which, with minor refinements, to be negotiated at New York this spring, could be adopted by consensus and ceremonially signed at Caracas later in the year.

This achievement, which might, from some future perspective, go down as a landmark in the evolution of an ordered world, *is imperilled* both by the uncertainties surrounding the attitudes of the new American administration on the issue, and by the insistence of some technologically advanced states on using *national* legislation to provide for the mining of what is acknowledged to be *inter*national terrain.

Understandably, those that now import the minerals in question (mainly nickel, copper, cobalt and manganese) will not wait for ever for a treaty; but national solutions will not only condemn the world to missing a great opportunity for constructive political action; they will also fail to assure the miners of what they need—undisputed rights to mine a specific site exclusively for a specified period.

Let us all make sure, then, that 1981 is the year of the Law of the Sea Treaty; that, if there *must* be national legislation, it is compatible with that treaty and the mode of allocating sites under it; and that the Reagan *administration is persuaded to* throw its weight, as past administrations of both parties have done, behind the kind of treaty that can secure general acceptance at the conference *(which means one in more, or* less its present form); and that the Senate, and its counterparts elsewhere, are in due course persuaded to ratify it. No one would claim that the treaty is *perfect, but it could contribute* to making a better world. The alternative is anarchy and worldwide disillusionment.

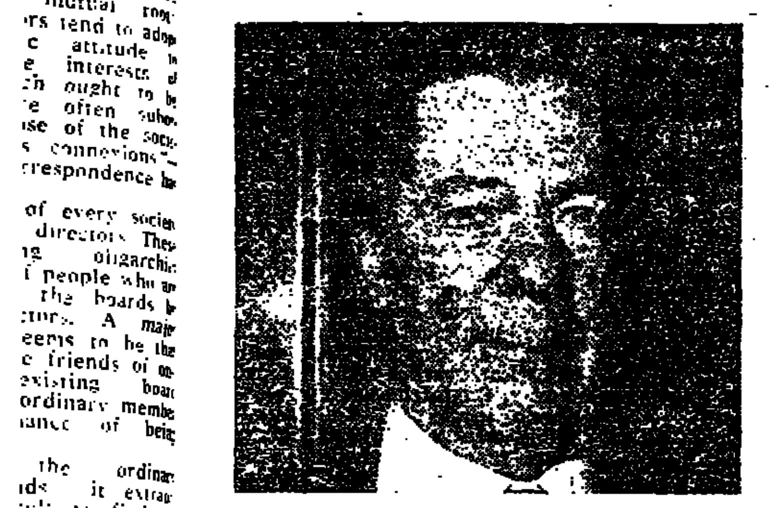
RODERICK C. OGLEY,
4 King Henry's Road,
Lewes.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

China Clays at the top

English China Clays' full-year pretax profits of £40.5m were 22 per cent up on last time, but, nevertheless, point to a sharp decline in the second half. Taking the year as a whole, china clay output, still the backbone of the company, held up better than expected but still fell by about 1.4m tonnes to 2.66m. Pretax profits in this division rose by 8.6 per cent to £25.5m, helped by price increases of around 20 per cent at the beginning of the year and an unusually good September.

But it was the company's other activities which were vital. Quarries pushed up profits by 41 per cent to £9.9m; building, recovering from the setbacks of 1979, contributed £1.6m against £196,000; and transport and services went up by 26 per cent to £3.4m. Building's figures are deceptive because most of the



Lord Aberconway, chairman of English China Clays.

improvement came from the holiday operations rather than construction, although the company will not disaggregate the two.

Demand for clay is now falling off more steeply. Even though the relationship between the level of economic activity and paper consumption—the chief user of china clay—is vague, demand has already declined sufficiently for the company to encourage extensive premature retirements among its workforce and for the Cornish pits to be put on a three-week month. Not only is volume likely to be affected, but the recent price increases of 9 per cent for filler grades and 6 per cent for coating grades will probably be the only ones this year.

Much will depend on the second half in the current year then. With the possibility of profits plunging to as little as £30m, the company may well be worried about a takeover, a constant background threat over the years. In this context, raising the final dividend to 5p gross, an increase of 21 per cent, making a 20 per cent increase to 8.7p gross for the whole year, could be seen as a sweetner to shareholders. At this level, the dividend is covered about three times historically, but just uncovered on a current cost basis. Since, however, the results were right at the top end of the market's expectations, the shares put on 6p to 90p, where they yield 9.7 per cent.

Electronic Rentals

Projections for video

Electronic Rentals is unlikely to make more than £14.5m this financial year against the previous year's depressed £12.2m—hardly the substantial increase the group was budgeting for.

Still, although there is little cheer for ERG in the immediate future, there are some things to look forward too. As the purest of the rental companies ERG should do well from the growth of video and falling interest rates will eventually have a big impact on profits.

Interest charges have been a headache ever since ERG geared up to acquire British Relay Wireless and were up by £1.6m to £7.3m during the first half. More by accident than design this was much as expected, for although interest rates have remained high, ERG's capital requirements were lower than expected because of the non-availability of the Philips video system.

This shortage of videos combined with a slack rental market which saw marginal net redemptions of sets and internal costs *outstripping price increases explains a dull* performance from United Kingdom rentals —still far and away the major source of profit. Pre-interest profits were 3 per cent up at £12.6m but adding back £3.5m exceptional rationalization costs to the previous year gives a truer picture.

Overseas rental did a little better in the first half because of the Rentacolour acquisitions but camping and leisure turned round to losses and is being slimmed. Group pretax profits for the first half ran out at £7.4m against £5.5m (after exceptional costs).

After racing ahead to 99p the shares closed only 2p higher after hours at 92p where the yield on a maintained dividend is 6.7 per cent. The second half will remain difficult and ERG is still having problems getting enough videos to rent out. But the potential of this market plus the interest rate factor make a good case for the shares in the longer term.

● *No investor has lost money since the State Building Society collapse in the 1950s, but the movement's reputation for being as safe as houses has been tarnished in the past five years by the unfolding scandals at the Wakefield Building Society and the Grays Building Society. The affair at the Alfreton Building Society, currently under police investigation, will be modest by comparison, but arguably more worrying.*

After the major defalcations unearthed at the Grays and the subsequent remedial action proposed by the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, the accountancy profession and Whitehall, it is, at first glance, unthinkable that within two years of the investigation of the Grays, another building society should apparently be finding skeletons in the cupboard.

But in fact the insistence of the Registrar for better internal controls which he has backed by visits to all societies with assets between £2m-£25m and the new guidelines proposed by the accountancy bodies at the end of last year, were designed to expose (and remedy) inefficiencies, or worse.

However, although the movement has certainly proved, yet again, that it can rescue its own, the Government's decision to back away from promised legislation for societies is to be regretted. Greater controls to back up the work of the Registrar and the accountants would still not come amiss.

Hickson & Welch

Under pressure

ICI is temporarily losing money and Fisons' dividend is in peril. So the modest fall in pretax profits from £8m to £6.5m in the year to last September but maintained dividend from Hickson & Welch brought a sigh of relief to the sector. The shares hardened 1p to 141p.

But the point about Hickson is not that it is weathering recession rather well, but that this highly rated chemical group with interests in timber preserving and building materials is now ex-growth. Hickson is not in fact coping with the downturn. In the first half of last year pretax profits went ahead by 15.5 per cent to £4.4m, so it only made £2.1m in the second six months. Redundancy and termination costs are a modest £393,000 but the figure will obviously swell if trade refuses to pick up and at present the group is making full use of the Government subsidy for short time working. It has however been quick to suspend capital spending and cut borrowing. But the price was a leap in tax from £437,000 to £3.2m as capital allowances disappeared, and earnings a share more than halved to 17p.

Hickson itself sees no end to recession for at least six months and its two big problems, a strong pound and expensive gas, are not likely to go away. The fear must be that Hickson will have lost important markets by the time business eventually picks up.

Timber preserving has probably raised its share of total profits to half, but chemical profits are still falling, and the pretax trend since the 1976-77 peak of £10.1m speaks for itself. There are better returns than its 7.6 per cent yield from more interesting *chemical companies.*

The man who shook Wall Street

Joe Granville likes to compare *his stock market analysis with* the way scientists predict earthquakes by reading seismological charts. But now a dazed Wall Street is wondering whether Mr Granville *predicts* financial earthquakes or causes them.

On Tuesday the market had looked unstoppable with the Dow Jones average soaring through the 1,000 barrier. Then at one stage on Wednesday it was down 31 points from Tuesday's close and ended the day down 23.80 points, at 980.89.

The man who was solely responsible for the carnage was Joseph Granville. Acting on his instructions 30 telephone operators working from 6.30 on Tuesday night to 2 o'clock on Wednesday morning called his 3,000 clients with a message as blunt as it was simple: "Sell everything".

They were the lucky ones. They had paid at least $500 a year to be members of the Florida-based financier's Early Warning System. Mr Granville has 10,000 other clients who learnt to their cost what happens when you pay Mr Granville *only $250.*

Newsletter

For that money they receive a weekly newsletter and many of them would have just been opening it at about the same time that privileged Early Warning System members were preparing to torpedo the market on Mr Granville's updated advice.

"Do some aggressive buying", the 57-year-old millionaire wrote confidently. "The market is signalling a sharp upward swing, and most groups look set to respond vigorously.

"The most important thing to know here is that most stocks are set to advance and the probability states that regardless of what you buy right here, it should be higher several weeks from now."

Mr Granville allowed his letter to go to press last Friday. Yesterday he was unrepentant in explaining what had happened.

"When we wrote the letter the Dow closed (on Friday) at 963.99 and we wrote that another 50 points was a piece of cake", he told the *Wall Street Journal.* "Well, the intraday high on Tuesday was 1013.13, and you can't call them any better than that. But the market left absolutely no doubt on Tuesday that it was giving us a sell signal."

Accuracy

Over the past few years Mr Granville's system of technical analysis has brought him a national reputation for accuracy in predicting the market. He has made his money by selling that advice.

He enhances his reputation by flying all over the country *from his home in Holly Hill,* Florida, to give lectures—accompanied by flamboyant *displays of showmanship* — to investment groups. Last year he covered 5,000 miles a week.

His basic message is that "the market always tells you where it is going". During particularly energetic performances he has been known to burst on to the stage carrying a large balloon and shouting to his audience: "How high is the market going?". He then releases the balloon to illustrate his point, possibly following up with a song and dance routine.

There is no doubt that Mr Granville has a large following — christened "Granville's groupies" by some Wall Street *dealers—and that his advice in* recent years has more often been right than wrong.

But the question remains: does Joe Granville predict the effect or cause it? He admits it might be a bit of both. "With a growing following, some degree of self-fufilling prophesy is inescapable", he says.

Nigel Nelson

Ivor Davis

Shadows on the silver screen

Hollywood hopes in 1981 to avoid the mistakes which made last year one of the worst ever experienced by its film industry

Hollywood

It seemed like a winner. Superstar Barbra Streisand in a musical with story by Isaac Bashevis Singer, the Nobel prize winner. Ms Streisand was even going to direct herself. They were all ready to go with a budget of around $17m—then the studio pulled the plug.

Yentl is a picture which unless alternative financing can be found will not now be made. The disintegration of a project starring the world's number one box office female star would seem surprising if it were not that it came at the end of a year which was one of the *worst for Hollywood in living* memory.

First, an expensive actors' strike crippled the studios for weeks and cost them millions of dollars. But even more important 1980 may well go down in film history as the year of the big flops culminating in the debacle over *Heaven's Gate,* $40m extravaganza-western by Michael Cimino, director of the Oscar winning *Deer Hunter.* His epic turned out to be 3½ hours of self-indulgence and Cimino is now reediting it in an attempt to salvage something.

But his film was only the worst example in a long list of duds. Coming closely behind was Steven Spielberg's *1941.* The director of *Jaws* and *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* persuaded Universal Pictures to give him an unlimited budget for a spoof movie on the anti-Japanese hysteria on the West Coast after Pearl Harbour. The resulting film was a noisy, *chaotic undisciplined disaster.*

Then there was *The Blues Brothers,* a picture directed by another young "genius", John Landis, whose earlier *Animal house* had taken in over $100m. Landis was given a free hand and $35m to try to repeat his earlier success. The picture was lacerated as one of the great wastes in Hollywood history.

A whole spate of new pictures made their appearance at the end of 1980 as Hollywood rushed out its offerings for Oscar consideration. Some of them have joined the list of *over-inflated* productions.

The Jazz Singer, which cost $15m and with pop singer Neil Diamond making his screen debut opposite Laurence Olivier in an updated version of the first talking picture, the 1927 Jolson classic, is artistically a disappointment, though it seems that the popularity of Diamond's music is rescuing it at the box office.

Despite the poor reviews EMI says that the film is doing brisk business and that in the first 17 days in some 228 cinemas in North America it grossed $8.3m. By mid-February it will be seen in more than 500 cinemas and after a royal premiere in London on January 29, it will open in Britain.

Robert Altman's $30m *Popeye* musical, an unlikely liaison between Paramount studios and Walt Disney Pictures, starring Robin Williams, the television comedian, has made its appearance with unmemorable music and sometimes unintelligible dialogue. Early box office returns, however, indicate the film is doing good business.

Little wonder then that the studios are running scared. According to the trade paper *Daily Variety,* box office receipts for last summer's season were down 25 per cent, which may not sound like much, but as Mr Alexander Auerbach, editor of the influential Hollywood journal *Box Office* points out, "With an inflation rate of 13 per cent that's the equivalent of being down 15½ per cent on *1979's grosses."*

Everywhere in the film industry a great deal of head scratching is going on as well as a slightly hysterical attempt to apportion blame. First to fall will undoubtedly be the director, the young genius of the moment, who makes one blockbuster film and then is given an open cheque book to follow his initial success.

Others say that Hollywood is suffering from management's inability to judge what is good anymore. "There's a bunch of executives running the studios *who wouldn't know a good story* if they saw one", says Mr Jerry Pam, a Hollywood publicist whose business it is to promote stars and their films.

But if the Hollywood product is dying on the vine, say some critics, it is because of the phenomenon called packaging which says if you have the right star, the right director and a big budget you can't miss—*never mind the script.*

It was the reasoning behind the *Jazz Singer, 1941, When Time Ran Out,* starring Paul Newman and Jacqueline Bisset, and *Xanadu,* a musical featuring Olivia Newton John and Gene Kelly. And it is a formula that just is not working.

Mr Norbert Auerbach, newly appointed president of United Artists argues that *overspending on films like his company's (Heaven's Gate)* is not an aberration but symptomatic of an industry-wide ailment: "We are going to have to deal with that particular problem just as everybody else should, otherwise we're going to have a catastrophic situation in our industry."

As a result the big Holly*wood studios intend* to keep a tight financial rein in 1981.

But even the film factories that have suffered the biggest losses from pictures—like Universal Studios—have not gone *out of business. They have been* able to cushion flops because of large portfolios of films, either playing or in the works at any given time, which can pay the rent for the unsuccessful pictures.

This year most films are again being made in the traditional manner, with studios funding the picture. In some cases independent producers get their own funding but are given financial guarantees from a major studio which will then buy the film from the producer for an agreed amount.

"*In most cases the majors* put their own money on the line", says *Box Office*'s Mr Auerbach.

As in the case of *Popeye,* Paramount and Disney shared the cost in a deal that gave Paramount the box office take from North America and Disney the overseas sales. That kind of arrangement is becoming more common in Hollywood when a studio wants to spread the risk factor.

In some cases film producers have covered their budget even before the first day of filming. They simply get guarantees from various countries, as well as guarantees for the sale of the finished product to television and cable companies.

Mr Charles Powell, a marketing specialist, blames overblown marketing budgets for the high costs of films. He says that studios spend millions selling a film often in a vain effort to protect their huge investments. *The Motion Picture Association* of America reports that the average cost of making a picture today is $6.5m—while the average amount spent on promoting a film is $5.5m.

"Many companies spend more on marketing than making films", Mr Powell says. He adds: "Television commercials are bleeding us to death. Studios are paying $100,000 for a 30-second television spot—it's crazy. Whatever happened to the old style publicity stunts where you got free space?"

Mr Auerbach of *Box Office* points out that another aggravating factor is the enormous salaries demanded and paid to big stars. "These days having a star in your film doesn't necessarily guarantee success. Audiences won't go to see a star if the film isn't popular", he says.

Christopher Reeve, the silver screen's "Superman", is one star who *opposes* the over-inflated salaries and he practises what he preaches. He recently took a large salary cut to star in the low budget romantic film *Somewhere In Time.*

"*There is something terribly* wrong with the film business," he says, "when on one hand you see millions thrown away on awful movies, and on the other someone like David Lean, who has never made a bad picture, can't raise enough money to make his next film *Mutiny On The Bounty.*"

Paul Monash, producer of one of Hollywood's most successful pictures, *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid,* does not, however, believe that Hollywood has lost its touch or is heading for complete disaster.

"*I think we're fighting in a* tougher market than ever before. I'm amazed we do survive with competition from cable TV, electronic games and everything else vying for the theatre going public. Today it's just a whole different economic ballgame."

Technology

How Ireland is finding fresh use for its peat bogs

Ireland, with the help of the European Economic Community, is *pioneering the development of biomass—renewable, short-*generation trees—as an energy source for the future.

Bord na Mona (the Irish Peat Development Authority) and the *National Board for Science and* Technology are cooperating in a Ir£7m (£5.5m) demonstration project. The EEC is providing 40 per cent of the money.

Mr Jeremiah Healy, land development manager for Bord na Mona, says that 1,000 acres are in production. Research began in 1975 and the trees were planted in 1977.

The experiment—from which Mr Healy says it is hoped to have enough information by the end of the eighties—is divided between conifers, which would have to be replanted after harvesting, and hardwood trees, which can be "coppiced", or mown like grass, at intervals.

The Electricity Supply Board, another public agency, is also involved. It is converting a *power plant in the far-western* region of Connemara to run on biomass.

The peat board's participation can be explained by the fact that Ireland's expanses of peat bogs have been judged to be excellent places to grow biomass—once the peat has been removed. Ireland has three *million acres of bogs,* but expects to exhaust this resource by the year 2020.

Mr Healy says that a harvesting machine for biomass now exists "on paper" and should be ready in 1981, two years before the first crop is due.

Mr Frank Lunny, a consultant working for the National Board for Science and Technology, believes that biomass could eventually supply a quarter of Ireland's energy needs. He says that the country's heavy rainfall and long frost-free season are points in its favour.

Mr Lunny says that the Irish experiment is attracting attention from abroad, and cites Sweden and Finland as two examples. In the United States, he adds, there is interest in making more efficient use of the wood from natural forests. The city of Burlington, Vermont, is generating electricity from wood, he says.

Mr Lunny has doubts about the conifer biomass. He likes the hardwood variety, because of its ability to resprout after being cut to the stump.

"You can cut these stumps again after four years and new sprouts will come. It is thought that you can go on doing that for 30 years—seven crops—*before the roots lose their* vigour and you have to replant."

As for the output, Mr Lunny says that it "appears that it is not over-optimistic" to hope for a yield of 8 tonnes of dry matter for each acre a year. That figure corresponds to about 3 tonnes of oil.

Only 5 per cent of Ireland's land is forested, against an average of 20 per cent for EEC countries as a whole. "We are the least forested country in the EEC", Mr Lunny says.

He believes that large tracts of poor agricultural land in counties Leitrim, Mayo, Clare and Kerry would be "ideal" for reforestation. To this would be added bogland as it becomes available.

He says that a peat bog produces four times as much energy as a piece of land of the same size devoted to biomass. But whereas biomass goes on forever peat can only be used once.

Mr Lunny says that biomass, with its lower sulphur content, involves much less air pollution than coal. The job of the grower is also easier than it would be if he were cultivating other crops.

All the *grower has to think* about is volume. Worries about such things as protein content can be left to the food farmer.

Mr Healy and Mr Lunny are cautious men, more inclined to *the technical than the lyrical.* Indeed, Mr Healy says, a large part of his job is to "dampen down this enthusiasm" that has been shown by less realistic laymen.

Mr Lunny points out that no new energy source is going to provide the whole answer to any country's problems. Each will just have to be added to the mix of alternatives.

The future of biomass, he says, will also depend on "a lot of political decisions". For example, it has not even been determined yet what agency will be responsible for its development in Ireland.

But Mr Lunny is hopeful, both about the prospects for biomass and Ireland's role in developing it. "I think that if we play our cards right we could be the lead country in biomass production."

Robert O'Connor

Business Diary: On account of Dr Johnson

Oxford

To the University, at the invitation of William Hyde. I called on him not at his college (he is a fellow of Linacre) but at Pembroke, one of his other 39.

Hyde is secretary to the Oxford *University Chest* (the university's kitty) and he is also president of the Institute of Cost and Management Accountants.

I found him at Pembroke, chairing a symposium he had set up to bring together day-to-day practitioners of management accounting and ICMA members who hold chairs of accountancy. *I was delighted* to see that two of the academics were called Risk and Tricker.

Hyde is known to the City for a spell as a director of Schroders and as author of the Hyde Guidelines prepared by the Accounting Standards Committee

Pembroke is not only known, but interesting, to me as the college of Dr Johnson, although it must be said that Dr Johnson was not too interested in accounting.

Boswell once told him of a lady who refused to keep family accounts for her husband since she did not go over the budget. "Sir", said the doctor, "it is fit that she should keep an account, because her husband wishes it: but I do not see its use".

Having said hello to Hyde as he and his accountants (all of them men) went into conclave, I paid my respects to the bursar of Pembroke, Colin Leach.

Leach has an office on the first floor immediately above the porter's lodge and immediately below "Dr Johnson's room". *I found him working* on a computerized cash flow projection for Pembroke, its first.

He is the man for the job, for *until two years* ago he was managing director of Ariel, the Accepting Houses' computerized share-dealing alternative to the Stock Exchange.

Within a week of starting a new job Leach was rung by an Oxford friend and asked if he knew that the Pembroke bursarship was going. He didn't and, as it was closing day for applications, he got in touch right away and pipped more than 100 others to the post.

What, I asked Leach, was the attraction of Oxford over the City? "*Very high intelligence* in a large number of people one meets and works with", he replied, "and a far less, I think, grasping attitude to life. I found as I worked in the City I more and more wanted to be here".

How, after 22 years in the City, did he invest the college's cash?

"Having regard, always, as I must do, to short-term cash requirements, I will invest in equities where I think there is either long-term growth, or, which I like to think is my own speciality, invest in bombed-out recovery stocks."

At my insistence Leach tipped Courtaulds and Chubb as two examples. Ariel, whose future is secure only until the end of March, is, I suggested, "bombed-out". Was it "recovery"?

Here Leach hesitated and then said he would have speculated for me had he not *recently discussed* the matter with the present MD of Ariel, Garry Arnott, so he would rather not.

"I think the concept remains a very good one," he added. Why then, I went on, did it not work better?

The reason, Leach said, is "the absence of a market-maker—a jobber, if you like—*someone who would be there at* the right moment to take stock that was on offer or to supply stock that was wanted.

"Time after time on Ariel I would see in the morning that there's a subscriber buying ICI, in the afternoon selling ICI—but they didn't get together, because they were both at 20,000 shares, both at 340p, but at the wrong time."

A *former classics don* at Brasenose, Leach is now bringing out with the American poet James Michie a new edition of Euripides' play *Helen.*

It was to the theatre, with a tragedy called *Irene,* that Dr Johnson looked after leaving Pembroke without a degree in 1731. His father's bookselling business was failing and so Johnson had to go.

I took up the theme of theatre over lunch in hall with Hyde, because Oxford's Playhouse is one of the university assets *administered by the Chest.* He told me that the future of the Playhouse, like that of Ariel, was under review. It is losing about £50,000 a year and the curators of the Chest are preparing a report which will go to the Hebdomadal Council this spring.

Closure, Hyde went on, was a possibility. "But on the other hand we spend a lot of money on the Bodleian Library, with all its huge number of volumes, and on other libraries throughout Oxford, so isn't it important that there should be a place *where Shakespeare's plays can* be heard, rather than reading the book of the play?"

Over dinner I met Jack Shaw, who brought to mind Dr John*son's joke that "the noblest* prospect which a Scotchman ever sees is the high road that leads him to England".

This was not the case with *Shaw, a Scot who was at Pem*broke not to get away from Scotland but to deliver a paper to his ICMA fellows on "Accountability — Corporate Governance and the Management Accountant."

Shaw has both feet planted firmly *in his native* heather, one as Professor of Accountancy at the University of Glasgow and the other in Edinburgh as senior partner in the office there of Deloitte, Haskins & Sells.

He said that his was about the only one of the 40 or so accountancy chairs in the country which required the incumbent to practice what he preached, and this was one reason why the professors and the practitioners were so often at odds.

"Anybody who tries to build a bridge gets shot at by chaps from both sides," he told me.

The college's head porter, John Jefferson, showed me Dr Johnson's room, now occupied by a Mr J. W. Hall, and added that Mr Hall's "father was at Pembroke, too, strangely enough, but not in that room".

I found one member of the college who was still showing visitors to the wrong room and another who had not long got it right, "I must have shown dozens of Americans the wrong place," he said.

I would like to think that Pembroke will go on showing Americans the wrong Dr Johnson's room. Did not the doctor himself say of them: "Sir, they are a race of convicts and ought to be thankful for anything we allow them, short of hanging."?

Ross Davies

Wallchart

WHO SAYS THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT INTERESTED IN ENCOURAGING SMALL BUSINESSES?

I KNOW OF AT LEAST FIVE MAJOR COMPANIES THAT HAVE BECOME SMALL BUSINESSES IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS!

GLYN WALL.

Stock markets

Nervous selling gives way to firmer tone

The appearance of bargain hunters among oils and electricals enabled the market to attempt a long-awaited rally yesterday despite further gloomy news from home and abroad.

The session again started on a shaky note, with dealers fearing further heavy selling on the London market following the "sell everything" call on Wall Street the previous night which saw the Dow Jones tumble 23.80. In addition, dealers remained concerned over the latest threat of industrial action by the public-sector workers which presented a direct threat to the Government's economic policy.

As a result, the index was showing a net loss of 5.1 by 11 am as nervous selling continued. However, with the new account drawing to a close, jobbers noted one or two bargain hunters coming in for new time and quite a bit of bear closing, particularly among electrical and oils. The firmer tone continued throughout the afternoon and, despite further falls in the resumption of trade on Wall Street, the FT index closed only 0.9 off at 459.3.

Gilts, too, staged a small rally but prices closed generally lower on the day. In longs, falls of £½ recovered to £¼, while in shorts losses of £⅛ were registered.

The new tap Treasury 12½ per cent 1999 "B" got off to a slow start, as expected, and closed with £½ discount over the opening £20 partly paid price.

Jobbers still remain pessimistic in the short term with too little money chasing too much stock ahead of next week's cash calls.

Leading industrials made up most of the leeway after a dull start, with most closing just a penny or two below overnight levels. Fisons, rising 2p to 183p, continued to rally after earlier weakness over reorganization plans resulting in the loss of 1,100 jobs. But elsewhere falls were seen in ICI 2p to 312p, Glaxo 3p to 448p, Courtaulds 1p to 52p, Hawker Siddeley 6p to 236p and GKN 3p to 146p.

Jobbers in electricals described conditions as "extremely volatile" with no definite pattern after earlier fears of defence cuts. But persistent bargain hunting by the institutions left most shares off the bottom at the close. GEC closed only 2p lower at 588p, after 581p, Racal 2p to 311p, after 309p. Ferranti shed 5p to 435p and STC 10p to 429p, although Plessey managed a 2p rise on the day at 258p. Thorn-EMI recovered 4p to 305p ahead of figures today, but ICL shed 6p to 61p as 500,000 shares went through the market at 59p on the back of the gloomy annual report.

Expect news next week of a substantial new United States account for advertising agents Geers Gross. Mr Bob Gross, chief executive, who travels to the United States soon, said: "I can say nothing now, but it is a substantial account." The shares closed last night unchanged at 59p, after touching 39p at one stage in the past year.

Nevertheless, the recovery did not include most of the secondline electricals which continued to slide. Unitech dipped 10p to 274p, Farnell 20p to 359p and Muirhead, reporting next week, 4p to 74p. Electronic Rentals climbed 7p to 97p following interim figures, but faded in after-hours to close at 92p, a net rise of 2p on the day.

Oils displayed a better tone, despite the continuing weakness on Wall St, helped by quite a bit of bear closing ahead of the new account on Monday. Among the majors, BP hardened 6p to 402p, Shell a similar amount at 452p, Lasmo 5p to 709p and Burmah 3p to 188p. Tricentrol continued to celebrate its latest drilling report from block 211/18, rising 4p to 336p, although Ultramar resisted the trend, slipping 2p to 493p.

Among second-liners, speculative attention lifted NCC Energy 5p to 83p, while Sun Oil maintained its recent strong run 18p dearer at 490p. However, recent high-flyers Double Eagle and Warrior Resources both tumbled 20p to 180p respectively.

The full-year figures from English China Clays were better than expected and the shares rebounded 51p to 90p. Favourable trading statements were also worth 2p on Peter Black at 103p, Midland Construction 3p to 36p, Birmingham Pallet 3p to 51p and Hickson & Welch 1p to 141p. In the meantime, disappointing figures clipped 11p from RFD at 351p, 3p from Radley Fashion at 25p, 4p from John Waddington at 96p, 7p from Pleasurama at 187p and 3p from Sidlaw Industries at 101p.

Still reeling from recent heavy losses, ERF slipped 3p to 43p as profit taking saw Baker's Household Stores retreat 8p to 106p. But McCorquodale improved 1p to 111p.

News that the board meeting to discuss the interim dividend at ML Holdings had been cancelled saw the shares plunge 20p to 250p, as rumours of a rights issue knocked 11p from Norcros at 74p. Shares of F. Pratt dipped another 2p in the wake of a factory closure earlier this week.

Shares of Jamaica Sugar closed ½p lower at 21p, on the announcement that Mr Nicholas de Savary had topped up 1.6m shares at 15p giving him 49 per cent of the equity.

Meanwhile, speculative attention lifted Hazlewoods Proprietary 7p to 120p, Tecalemit/Consulate 3p to 52p, J. Bibby 10p to 232p, Mining Supplies 5p to 125p, News International 5p to 108p and Dowty 5p to 200p. Brent Walker enjoyed a 1p rise at 80p, following favourable press comment.

Mines continued to suffer on the weak bullion prices with falls in Hartebeest £3 5/16 to £30 9/16, Randfontein £3 7/16 to £35 9/16 and Western Deep £2 5/16 to £26 7/16. In mining financials, Consolidated Gold Fields hardened 1p to 501p. Brokers Rowe & Pitman are reported to have picked up 200,000 this week in order to support the price following the appearance of a large seller.

With the smell of burnt fingers over Double Eagle hanging in the air, it has surprised few that new oil exploration stock Pennine Resources, launched by Lazard Brothers, still languishes at a discount to the 50p offer price. Lazard's "honourable "beware of the risks" warning cannot have helped. However, speculators reckon it the cheapest oil stock around.

Equity turnover on January 7 was £106.461m (15,629 bargains). The most active stocks, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Shell, Bowater, BP, English China Clays, Burmah, Premier, Allied Breweries, Crystalate, European Ferries, First Castle Securities, Grand Metropolitan Hotels, Marks and Spencer, and Plessey.

Traded options had a better day with 1,036 contracts. RTZ and BP saw most trade with 222 and 120 contracts respectively, and Lasmo was busy with 111.

Traditional options were busy with yesterday being declaration day. Calls were arranged in Chinese 5 per cent 1913 stock in the wake of recent developments; and in May and Hassell at 9½ and Howard Tenens at 7p. A put was done in GUS at 25p.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Birmingham Pallet (F)	3.6(3.39)	0.08(0.087)	8.9(4.9)	1.5(—)	3/3	2.5(3.5)
Peter Black (I)	16.7(15.8)	1.35(1.32)	8.2(7.9)	1.54(1.47)	1/5	—(—)
Electronic Rentals (I)	80.1(86.3)	7.42(5.53)	3.8(2.7)	1.17(1.17)	26/2	—(4.31)
First Nat Finance (F)	—(—)	7.6(21.6)	7.2(16.4)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Hickson & Welch (F)	93.3(85.5)	6.48(8.06)	17(39)	5(5)	16/2	7.5(7.5)
N. Midland (F)	7.48(5.78)	0.46(0.26)	14.68(8.49)	1.5(—)	—	2.15(1.45)
Pleasurama (F)	12.7(11.7)	4.6(3.2)	32.8(21.5)	4.5(4.0)	—	6.5(4.82)
Radley Fashion (F)	5.53(6.17)	0.13*(0.09)	—(—)	nil(—)	—	—(4.37)
RFD (I)	13.62(13.16)	0.37(0.81)	1.43(3.9)	0.8(0.8)	6/3	—(—)
Sidlaw (F)	34.15(40.0)	0.13*(0.87)	2.25(13.8)	1.5(—)	16/3	3.0(6.7)
Stead & Simpson (I)	18.3(17.28)	1.15(1.97)	—(—)	1.0(1.0)	13/2	—(2.25)
John Waddington (I)	33.05(30.24)	1.02*(0.42*)	—(—)	2.4(5.22)	26/2	—(11.9)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net.
* Loss.

Property fall brings setback at FNFC

By Our Financial Staff

The First National Finance Corporation's six-year struggle to return to business on its own two feet received a setback in the year to October 31, 1980, with falling property prices, and higher interest rates.

The lending and property division made a loss in the region of £750,000. Group pretax profit for the year fell to £7.67m against £21.6m the previous year. But a long wrangle with the Inland Revenue resulted in a £1.24m tax credit. No dividends have been paid since November, 1974.

FNFC now owes the lifeboat of banks which still supports it £225.5m. Other debts total £23.7m. The deficit on shareholder's funds fell from £38m to £29m at October 31. Interest paid on the income, deferred and subordinated loans in 1979-80 totalled £22.1m, and another £15m or so was paid out on the lifeboat's £107.5m direct loan to the consumer credit division, which is still profitable.

It made £8.4m last year, down from £9.2m, but suffered less than similar businesses, FNFC's managing director, Mr Stuart Dyer, said yesterday, because of its concentration on second mortgages and comparatively small interest in fixed rate hire purchase.

Unpaid interest on the subordinated loans is now £7.73m. Loans to the lending and property division exceed current asset values, and progress now depends on further falls in interest rates and better property prices.

Mr Dyer is making no forecasts at this stage. Provisions of £750,000 for interest in the first half of this year were included in the 1979-80 figures.

John Waddington hopeful after £1m interim loss

By Margareta Pagano

After a "nightmare" two years, John Waddington believes that the worst may be over. Losses at the Leeds-based packaging and games group climbed from £418,000 to £1.02m. A profit is expected for the second half, but not enough to avoid a loss for the full year. The interim is halved to 3.57p gross.

The group is still reeling from its disastrous entry into the electronic games market. The latest results cover a loss of £2.2m, against £2.9m last time, from Waddington Videomaster; a loss of £810,000 from its American subsidiary, House of Games Inc; but obscures a pretax profit of £1.23m from packaging, printing and games from the home market. Borrowings total £5.4m representing 32 per cent gearing.

The last accounts were thought to have seen the last damage inflicted by Videomaster but estimates were revised as a poor selling season caused an even sharper decline. Stocks have now been written down to nil and all expenses have been covered for the year to April. Videomaster, bought from receivership for £700,000, has over the last two years piled up losses of about £6m.

The remains of Videomaster have now been transferred to Subbuteo sports games, a United Kingdom subsidiary, under the control of its managing director.

Mr Christopher Bowes, finance director, believes the "nightmare of the last two years" is over and that the group has now to concentrate on its packaging and games division at home. Attempts to sell Videomaster have been made in the last year and these continue.

Mr Victor Watson, chairman of John Waddington.

Although profits are expected for the second half, there will be a loss for the full year, he said.

Waddington's United States games concern, which imported electronic games from the Far East, showed profits last year of £280,000 on sales of £2.5m. Despite good order books, by June this year customers had cancelled orders and the overall American market slipped drastically. On total sales for electronic games in the United States market in 1979 of $500m, sales for 1980 had been estimated in the region of $700m. This had in fact fallen to $400m and Waddington was as badly affected as other distributors.

Mr Victor Watson, chairman, said that after the reduction in these two businesses the group will consist two thirds of packaging and printing activities, the balance from games and playing cards.

London casinos boost Pleasurama

By Our Financial Staff

Higher pretax profits from Pleasurama, the leisure and gaming group, reflect the first full-year contributions from both its London casinos, the Casanova and Ritz clubs.

Pleasurama has a 25 per cent stake in both clubs and Mecca Sportsman, a subsidiary of Grand Metropolitan, holds the balance. The clubs turned in profits for the year to September of £2.09m. The group's main businesses, including its *provincial casinos and discos* and two overseas activities, recorded profits of £2.5m compared with £2.25m in the past *year*. Turnover *rose* by £1m to £12.7m. Last year the full-year contribution from the Ritz and a part-year period from the Casanova was £956,000. *Total pretax profits of £4.6m* compare with £3.2m last year.

The final gross dividend of 6.4p makes a total payment for the year of 9.2p, compared with 6.8p *last* time. Earnings per share have risen to 33.8p against 21.5p.

The result of the appeal next month which has been brought by the Coral leisure group against the closure of four of its London clubs is bound to affect trading in London. If the appeal is lost, Pleasurama is in a position to benefit.

Trading at both clubs is satisfactory and profits have covered costs, Mr George Martin, the chief executive, said yesterday. The recession, however, has had more effect on London clubs than other *parts of the country*

Briefly

Record Ridgway Co: Board says that it cannot unreservedly recommend Bahco's 37p cash offer to all shareholders and those who take a longer term view of their *investment in the company will* benefit by retaining their shares.

Jamaica Sugar Estates: Mr Nicholas de Savary has acquired from Mr Peter Landor 700,000 ordinary and has acquired from Gombrette 900,000 ordinary making an aggregate of 49 per cent. An offer under rule 34 will be made as speedily as possible.

Exp-o-Tel Group has acquired from Claverley company entire *issued share capital of* Keith Prowse, the theatre booking and travel agents. Both Exp-o-Tel and *Claverley are private companies* and the consideration paid for Keith Prowse shares is not being revealed.

Peter Black Holdings: In half-year to October 31, sales were £16.70m (£15.82m). Profit before tax, £1.36m (£1.32m). Earnings per share, 8.2p (7.9p). Interim dividend will be increased to 1.54p *per share net (1.47p)*.

North Midland Construction: Dividend 2.15p (1.45p) for year to August 31. Turnover £7.485m (£5.7m). Pretax profit £460,000 (£264,000). EPS 14.68p (8.49p).

Jessups (Holdings): Mr. Alan Jessup, Chairman, reported that *the company had shown a small* profit in the first quarter of the current year. However, no real turn-round in trading conditions could be anticipated before the autumn of 1981 and company could not, therefore, epect too much in their year which ends on August 31.

Birmingham Pallet Group: Turnover for year to October 31 (£3.66m (£3.39m). Pretax profit £81,000 (£87,000). EPS 8.9p (4.9p). Dividend 3.57 (5p) gross.

Strata Oil: Mechanical problems have been overcome at Woodada 3, and the well is drilling ahead at 8,076 feet. Footage since the last report is 33ft. High gas readings *with oil traces in the mud* continue to be encountered.

Arthur Lee and Sons has acquired from Aurora Holdings the bright steel stockholding depots of Osborn Steel Stockholders at Slough and Sittingbourne. Consideration was £580,000 which is represented by stocks and fixed assets at depots

Consolidated Gold Fields: De Beers and Anglo American Corpn of South Africa have acquired an interest in an additional 50,000 *ordinary shares in company*, so that each co now has an indirect interest in 50 per cent of a total *of 52.883m* ordinary shares.

C H Industrials: In its largest transaction to date, property division has sold its recently completed industrial development on its site at Tingewick Road, Buckingham to a nationalized industry pension fund for £2m. The buildings *are occupied by Group's* Cemenrone subsidiary and have been leased back by this subsidiary *for 35 years at an initial rent* of £180,000 a year.

Metalrax—a sub of Metalrax (Holdings)—has acquired Interrax Sales, at Chislehurst, Kent.

RFD Group down 54pc midway

Taxable profits of RFD Group *fell 54 per cent to £373,000 on* turnover of £13.62m against £13.16m for the six months to September 30. Interest took £398,000 against £203,000 but there were no reorganization costs this time, against £108,000 *last year*. The interim dividend is held at 1.14p gross.

While the board considers the results to be poor, it points out that they are not as bad when compared *with last year* as a whole. Then the group made a loss of £434,000 on sales of £26.3m.

The specialist textile division is still suffering from price competition, which has led to many reductions in selling prices, and to production levels well below capacity.

In contrast, the coatings division has turned in excellent results.

Sidlaw cuts payout after loss

A profit of £878,000 has been turned into a loss of £134,000 at Sidlaw Industries for the year to September 26. The dividend *is cut from* 9.6p gross to 4.28p.

An extraordinary charge of £411,000 against £258,000 was incurred in the year, and in *addition a provision of* £1.75m has been made.

The trading loss attributable to discontinued operations amounted to about £2m in the two years to September 1980. With some of these operations continuing into the current year their impact on 1981 trading results cannot yet be fully quantified.

Radley Fashion loss for half year

With turnover at Radley Fashion Group dipping from £6.17m to £5.53m for the year to May 19, a pretax profit of *£95,000* has turned *into* a pretax loss of £134,000 after bank and loan interest of £192,000 against £121,000. There is no final dividend, leaving the total at 2.14p gross against 6.24p.

Accounts for the United *Kingdom companies* in the first half of the current year disclose a small *profit* in spite of a fall in turnover and it is not thought that the results of the two *small* overseas *subsidiaries* will materially affect the figures.

Stock levels have been reduced. The board believes that it can produce an overall profit for the current year.

Minet Holdings down 17 pc for nine months

Third quarter results from Minet Holdings, showing profits running 17 per cent down after nine months of the *1980/81* period at £5.2m, continue to *reflect* the impact of high sterling and competitive market conditions in Lloyd's insurance broking.

At the beginning of the year *Minet indicated that its* ambition was to maintain profits this time at the 1979/80 level of £8.4m. That now looks improbable, especially since the costs of a limited redundancy programme will be taken in the final quarter.

Sales of diamonds up by 5 pc

By Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

Reflecting persistent weak demand for diamonds, Central Selling Organisation—the marketing arm of De Beers—says that sales of rough stones rose by just 5 per cent in 1980, from strength of the Rand against the *$2,598m to $2,723m*. But the dollar depressed Rand receipts by 2 per cent to R2,142m.

Sales of large stones, defined when rough as about two carats and over, were depressed for most of the year. Small stones *have resisted the impact of de*pression and high interest rates better, but they too have suffered, partly because of reaction against the high prices of two years ago.

The high gold price has also *held jewelry sales down*. and demand has switched into smaller and cheaper pieces. The main exception, market sources suggest, has been demand in *Japan for "fancies"—stones* other than the common brilliant cut.

GFSA declines

For the first time for over a year, the quarterly revenue of mines in the Gold Fields of *South Africa group* has not risen. Revenue from the eight mines for the three months to the end of December fell by R2m to R568m. GFSA is 47 per *cent controlled* by Consolidated Gold Fields. The main factors were lower gold output combined with only slightly higher gold *prices*. Total output fell *from 36,277 kilogrammes to* 35,873 kilogrammes, while the average gold *price* received was R15,776 a kilogramme, against R15,654.

St George's chairman steps down

By Philip Robinson

Mr Frank Armstrong is *standing down as executive* chairman of St George's Laundry (Worcester). His contract expired last year and he is currently negotiating to be non-*executive chairman at £7,500* a year until 1986.

His duties as managing director have already been taken over by his nephew and boardroom colleague, Mr Nigel Armstrong who now has a contract running until July 25, 1986 at a current annual salary of £17,500.

The board changes emerged yesterday in the official *document detailing St George's* £1.3m purchase of the laundry operations from the Provincial Group.

The document shows that two *of the four laundry operations* bought by St George's, Godalming and Bridgeward, made net *loss of £2,000 each in* 1979.

Even before shareholders have *approved the deals, St George's* has received an offer for part of the package, textile converters Dorrington Sheetings. It is estimated that St George's *could raise more than* £400,000 from the sale of its own unwanted assets and those from Provincial which do not fit the group's plans.

Concern at Ciba–Geigy over declining profits

Ciba-Geigy needs to reverse the trend of falling profits to generate funds for its survival, Mr Samuel Koechlin, the chief *executive officer, has said* in the staff journal.

The company said in July last year that earnings for the first half of 1980 were unsatisfactory. The group's *1979* net profit fell to 327m Swiss francs (£80m) from 360m (£90m).

The company had an above average sales rise in 1980, Mr Koechlin said, but he gave no figures.

Mr Koechlin said that most of its *important foreign markets* were experiencing a recession which would last longer and go *deeper than assumed*.

Cost-saving measures alone *would not be sufficient* to generate the finance necessary to secure the company's future, he said.

The company would have to review its activities, and *liquidate non-profitable operations*, Mr Koechlin said, but he gave no details.

It would also be necessary to launch *new ventures such* as last year's reconstruction of the Ilford group.

International

Eaton Eurobond offer

The United States company Eaton is raising $50m (about £25m) through an eight-year straight Eurobond.

The offering is a bought deal on fixed terms of a 13¼ per cent coupon and par pricing.

It is redeemable in the sixth year at 101 per cent.

Lufthansa expects loss

Herr Herbert Culmann, chairman of the board of management of Lufthansa, the West German national airline, said he expected modest losses in 1981 after a drop in 1980 earnings.

While Lufthansa *did not give* any precise figures, it indicated that 1980 earnings would be down from 1979's consolidated net profit of DM69.3m (about *£17m*).

The *prediction of a modest* loss for 1981 is seen as excluding payment of a dividend, but Herr Culmann did not make any prediction on the 1980 payout. In 1979, Lufthansa paid out DM4.50 per share.

A Lufthansa spokesman said that the expectation of a 1981 loss was based on higher fuel prices and lower capacity utilization.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14%
Barclays	14%
BCCI	14%
Consolidated Crdts	14%
C. Hoare & Co	*14%
Lloyds Bank	14%
Midland Bank	14%
Nat Westminster	14%
Rossminster	14%
TSB	14%
Williams and Glyn's	14%

* 7 day deposit on sums of £10,000 and under 11½%, up to £50,000 12%, over £50,000 12½%.

Business appointments

Changes at Jardine, Matheson

Mr David McLeod and Mr John Heywood have been appointed managing directors of Jardine, *Matheson & Co. Mr T. J. Bedford* and Mr George Ho have become directors of the company.

Two new directors *appointed by* Spicer-Cowan are Mr Jim Moore, who becomes northern operations director, and *Mr Richard Bennett*, buying and marketing director. At the same time Mr Bill Kerr, branch operations director, *becomes south*ern operations director.

Mr Graham Sheldon has been *appointed chairman of the newly*-formed Barton Aluminium Foundries. Mr Andrew Warn and Mr David Waterman become *joint* managing directors. The board is completed by Mr Walter Nash, commercial *director: Mr Graham* Hayball, sales director; Mr Bernard Rogers, technical director and Mrs *Maureen Williams, personnel* and administration director.

Mr Peter Lunn, a director of Barclays *Bank International* has *succeeded Dr Oswaldo Colin* as chairman of Euro-Latinamerican Bank. Dr Juan Ocampo, chairman *of Banco de la Nación Argentina*, has been appointed vice-chairman.

Mr Robin Eyres has been appointed managing director and chief executive of Thompson *Directories. Other directors appoin*ted are: Mr Ernie Martin, deputy managing director with responsi*bility for production and systems:* Mr Tom Methenitis, marketing director; Mr Terry Proctor, sales *director; Mr Nigel Jackaman*, finance director; Mr Jeremy Filmer-Bennett, personnel director; Mr John Rice, *systems director* and Mr Ken Burton, production director.

Lady Taylor has been appointed chairman of Taylor Woodrow Homes after the retirement of Mr Don Slough, Mr Dick Mooney, who took over as managing director earlier this year, succeeds Mr Slough in his other chairmanship, of Taylor Woodrow Homes (Scotland).

Mr D. J. C. Wyld *has joined* the partnership of *Macfarlanes*, solicitors.

Mr A. D. M. Proctor has joined the marine division of Willis Faber & Dumas as an executive *director*.

Mr D. G. Justham has been appointed a director of H. Samuel.

Mr J. G. Quinton, a general manager of Barclays Bank, has joined the City Capital Markets Committee.

Mr Christopher Haviland has been appointed a director of Barclays Merchant Bank, joining the projects department.

Mr David Skailes has *been appointed* assistant managing director of G. H. Downing & Co.

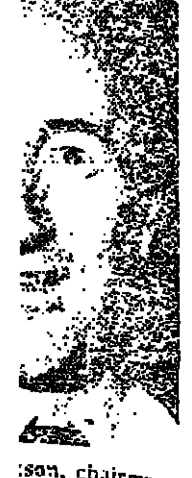
Mr I. L. Black *has been appointed* chairman of Burns-Anderson.

Mr R. J. Merkle has become a director of Imperial Foods.

1980-81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div(p)	Yld %	P/E
75	39	Airsprung Group	64	—	6.7	10.5	5.8
39	21	Armitage & Rhodes	34	—	1.4	4.1	14.0
192	92½	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	5.1	7.1
87	48	County Cars Pref	48	—	7.6	15.8	—
98	88	Deborah Ord	95	—	5.5	5.7	4.3
126	88	Frank Horsell	118	—	7.9	6.7	3.7
110	59	Frederick Parker	59	—	11.0	18.6	2.7
110	74	George Blair	75	—	3.1	4.1	—
110	59	Jackson Group	110	—	6.9	6.3	4.2
124	103	James Burrough	121	−1	7.9	6.5	9.9
330	244	Robert Jenkins	330	+3	31.3	9.5	—
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	3.8
224	216	Torday Limited	219	−1	15.1	6.9	3.7
23	10	Twinlock Ord	14	—	—	—	—
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	78	—	15.0	19.2	—
56	35	Unilock Holdings	37	—	3.0	8.1	3.8
102	81	Walter Alexander	102	—	5.7	5.5	5.6
255	181	W. S. Yeates	253	—	12.1	4.8	4.1

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MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

COPPER was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £795-95.00 a metric ton: three months, £815.50-16.50. Sales, 6,925. Cash cathodes, £774-75.00: three months, £795-96.00. Sales, 650 tons. Morning.—Cash wire bars, £793-94.50: three months, £816-16.50. Settlement, £794.50. Sales, 5,975 tons. Cash cathodes, £775-76.00: three months, £796-97.00. Settlement, £776.00. Sales, 150 tons.
TIN.—Standard was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £6,235-40 a tonne: three months, £6,345-50. Sales, 730 tonnes. High grade, cash, 6,235-45: three months, £6,350-60. Sales, nil tonnes. Morning.—Standard cash, £6,230-40: three months, £6,345-50. Settlement, £6,240. Sales, 505 tonnes. High grade, cash £6,235-45: three months, £6,355-60. Settlement, £6,245. Sales, five tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works fell by 13 cents to 32.78 ringgit per kilo yesterday.
LEAD closed steadier.—Afternoon.—Cash, £314.50-15.50 per tonne: three months, £326-37.00. Sales, 7,250 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £311-12.00: three months, £323-23.50. Settlement £312.00. Sales, 3,400 tonnes.
ZINC was steady but quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £330.50-31.00 per tonne: three months, £343.50-44.00. Sales, 925 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £331.50-32.50: three months, £344.50-45.00. Settlement, £332.50. Sales, 5,650 tonnes.
PLATINUM was at £236.45 ($568.00) a troy ounce.
SILVER was steady.—Bullion market (fixing levels).—Spot, 641.15p per troy ounce (United States cents equivalent, 1,540.00): three months, 663.65p (1,605.90c): six months, 688.90p (1,673.00c): one year, 733.40p (1,782.90c). London Metal Exchange.—Afternoon.—Cash, 645.5-46.5p: three months, 668-69.0p. Sales, 49 lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. Morning.—Cash, 639-41.0p: three months, 662.5-63.0p. Settlement, 641.0p. Sales, 84 lots.
ALUMINIUM was steady but quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £605-6.00 per tonne: three months, £624.50-25.50. Sales, 1,150 tonnes. Morning.—Cash £606.50-7.00: three months, £626-26.50. Settlement, £607.00. Sales, 4,400 tonnes.
NICKEL was quiet.—Afternoon.—Cash, £2,730-40 per tonne: three months, £2,700-05. Sales, 78 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £2,750-70: three months, £2,695-2,700. Settlement, £2,770. Sales, 18 tonnes.
RUBBER was steady (pence per kilo).—Feb, 59.00-59.30: March, 60.50-61.00: April/June, 63.40-63.50: July/Sept, 66.40-66.50: Oct/Dec, 69.50-69.60: Jan/March, 72.50-72.60: April/June, 75.40-75.50: July/Sept, 78.50-78.60: Oct/Dec, 81.40-81.50. Sales, 20 lots at five tonnes each and 306 at 15 tonnes each.
RUBBER PHYSICALS were steady.—Spot, 58.00-59.50. Cif's: Feb, 61.75-62.25: March, 62.50-63.00.
COFFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): Jan, 1,008-10: March, 1,030-31: May, 1,042-43: July, 1,052-53: Sept, 1,058-60: Nov, 1,060-62: Jan, 1,060-75. Sales, 2,244 lots, including 8 options.
ARABICA (officials at 16.45): Feb, 141.50-42.50: April, 134.00-44.50: June, 141.00-46.00: Aug, 142.00-47.00: Oct, 145.00-48.00: Dec, 145.00-49.00: Feb, 145.00-49.00. Sales, four lots.
COCOA was about steady (£ per metric ton).—March, 863-64: May, 891-92: July, 912-13: Sept, 935-36: Dec, 963-65: March, 983-87: May, 998-1,010. Sales, 2,538 lots.
SUGAR.—The London daily price of "raws" was £8.00 lower at £307: the "whites" price was £9.00 lower at £328. Futures (£ per tonne): March, 316.00-16.25: May, 314.00-14.50: Aug, 301.50-02.00: Oct, 289.50-90.00: Jan, 261.00-64.50: March, 260.00-60.50: May, 253.00-56.00. Sales, 8,941 lots. Tone: irregular. ISA prices (Jan 7): daily, 31.10c: 15-day average, 29.77c.
SOYABEAN MEAL closed steadier (£ per tonne): Feb, 133.00-33.50: April, 137.00-37.10: June, 138.40-39.00: Aug, 139.50-41.00: Oct, 131.50-31.70: Dec, 131.00-35.00: Feb, 132.00-35.00. Sales, 21 lots.
WOOL.—NZ Crossbreds, No 2 contract, cents per kilo (quiet).—Jan, 330-361: March, 359-364: May, 361-366: Aug, 371-377: Oct, 373-378: Dec, 378-392: Jan, 380-385: March, 382-386: May, 383-388. Sales: nil.
GRAIN (The Baltic).—WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring, unquoted. US dark northern spring, No 2, 14 per cent: Feb, £111.75: March, £112.50 trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter, 13½ per cent: Feb, £106: March, £106.25 trans-shipment east coast. EEC, unquoted. English feed, fob: April-June, £115.50 east coast.
MAIZE.—French: first-half, Jan, £119.75: second-half, Jan, £120.25: first half, Feb, £121.50 east coast. S African white, unquoted. S African yellow: Feb-March, £89.50.
BARLEY.—English feed, fob: Jan, £100.50: Feb, £102.50: March, £103.50: April-June £107.50 east coast. All per tonne cif UK unless stated.
London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was steady.—Jan, £95.70: March, £99.90: May, £102.95: Sept, £96.15: Nov, £99.85. Sales: 162 lots. WHEAT was steady.—Jan, £103.70: March, £106.95: May, £110.05: July, £115.05: Sept, £101.10: Nov, £104.75. Sales: 273 lots.
Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S East	£105.50	£101.50	£93.30
S West	—	£101.20	£95.90
W Midlands	£105.00	—	£96.60
N West	£106.30	£102.10	£95.20

MEAT COMMISSION: Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Jan 8: GB: Cattle, 84.05p per kg lw (+2.50). UK: Sheep, 141.23p per kg est dcw (−7.47). GB: Pigs, 65.09p per kg lw (−3.26). England and Wales: Cattle Nos up 232.2 per cent, average price, 84.51p (+2.98). Sheep Nos up 265.2 per cent, average price, 138.97p (−9.10). Pig Nos up 245.9 per cent, average price, 65.09p (−3.26).
POTATOES (Gafta).—Feb, £50.30: April, £65.50: Nov, £52.00. Sales: 86 lots (of 40 tonnes each).

Record turnover for London 'soft' markets

Turnover value on London's "soft" commodity markets reached a record £58,700m in 1980, compared with £31,900m traded in 1979, with the main activity occurring in sugar and Robusta coffee, figures released by the International Commodities Clearing House show.

The previous "high" was £45,900m, reached in 1977.

The number of lots traded in 1980 rose to 4.4m from 3.3m in the previous year.

On the sugar market, a record 1.1m lots of Number Two "raws" were traded in 1980 before it expired with the October contract, compared with 865,427 lots traded in 1979. The new Number Four "raws" contract saw business of 1.4m lots, against a previous 16,976.

Robusta coffee turnover totalled 1.1m lots in 1980, down by 263,313 on the 1979 total.

Cocoa lots traded were 647,397, compared with the previous 839,751.

Potatoes, traded since June 16 last year, had a turnover of 9,929 lots.

Lots traded in other commodities in 1980 were as follows, with previous year in brackets: NZ Crossbred, 5,972 (507); Arabica coffee, 4,444 (five); white sugar, 2,466 (53,202); soyabean meal, 40,645 (24,782); rubber, 122,747 lots of 15 tonnes (99,815) and 5,828 lots of five tonnes (4,297).

Discount market

The Bank of England gave help on a small scale to relieve a shortage of funds in the discount market yesterday, buying Treasury bills and eligible bank bills direct from the houses. Money moved very slowly throughout. In the afternoon, with the authorities ready to provide all the help needed, rates came away to 10 per cent in places, though the main range for the close was 12 to 12½ per cent.

Foreign exchange report

The foreign exchange market continued to trade in subdued fashion yesterday, with the dollar making useful headway, but sterling, in common with other major currencies, conceding some ground. At the close, the pound showed an 85-point fall at $2.4045, compared with $2.4130 overnight, but its trade-weighted index remained firmly underpinned, unchanged throughout at 79.0. Initially, the dollar moved ahead in response to higher Eurodeposit rates, but in rather uncertain trading normal volume was missing and the rises were often exaggerated.

The 20 per cent prime rates (including Chase Manhattan) announced during the afternoon had little effect on the dollar. Dealers were inclined to view the half-point cut as confirmation that the 19½ per cent Chemical Bank prime rate (announced on Tuesday) as being rather out of line and that rates seem at least for the short-term to have "bottomed out".

The D-mark weakened in dollar terms to 1.9625 from 1.9455.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) January 8	Market rates (close) January 8	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.3970-4070	$2.4040-4050	1.30-1.40c disc	1.90-2.05c disc
Montreal	$2.8530-8600	$2.8555-8565	1.10-1.20c disc	1.50-1.70c disc
Amsterdam	5.09-14fl	5.12½-13½fl	2¼-1⅜c prem	6½-5½c prem
Brussels	75.40-76.00f	75.85-95f	19-9c prem	37-27c prem
Copenhagen	14.13-54k	14.52½-53½k	380-200ore prem	430-245ore prem
Dublin	1.2655-2725p	1.2665-2675p	5 prem-8p disc	15-2p disc
Frankfurt	4.68-73m	4.71½-72½m	2¼-1¼pf prem	7-6pf prem
Lisbon	127.00-75	127.35-45e	par-65c disc	25 prem-125c disc
Madrid	191.15-75p	191.60-70p	30-90c disc	140-220c disc
Milan	2228-43lr	2241½-42½lr	4½-6½lr disc	13½-16½lr disc
Oslo	12.27-37k	12.34-35k	510-360ore prem	1355-1210ore prem
Paris	10.85-93f	10.90½-91½f	4¼-3¼c prem	9-8c prem
Stockholm	10.46-53k	10.50-51k	390-480ore disc	905-1000ore disc
Tokyo	475-88y	484-85y	330-285y prem	745-675y prem
Vienna	33.20-50sch	33.35-40sch	12-9gro prem	33-28gro prem
Zurich	4.23½-28½f	4.27-28f	3⅞-2⅞c prem	9⅞-8⅞c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to December 21, 1971, was 79.0% unchanged

Other Markets

Australia	2.0170-2.0320
Bahrain	0.9045-0.9075
Finland	9.1930-9.2330
Greece	109.95-111.95
Hongkong	12.3410-12.3810
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.6490-0.6520
Malaysia	5.3075-5.3275
Mexico	55.25-56.75
New Zealand	2.4730-2.4930
Saudi Arabia	7.9930-8.0230
Singapore	4.99-5.03
South Africa	1.7805-1.7955

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	79.0	−25.5
US dollar	86.0	−7.9
Canadian dollar	79.6	−18.5
Schilling	147.7	+22.1
Belgian franc	111.3	+10.9
Danish kroner	101.9	−7.6
Deutsche mark	146.8	+40.0
Swiss franc	188.3	+77.3
Guilder	123.0	+17.7
French franc	96.7	−7.8
Lira	50.3	−52.7
Yen	145.7	42.5

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.8920-1.8950
† Canada	1.1876-1.1578
Netherlands	2.1315-2.1330
Belgium	31.54-31.56
Denmark	6.0400-6.0450
West Germany	1.9620-1.9630
Portugal	53.03-53.13
Spain	79.55-79.75
Italy	932.75-933.50
Norway	5.1325-5.1375
France	4.5400-4.5420
Sweden	4.3730-4.3780
Japan	201.30-201.50
Austria	13.90-13.93
Switzerland	1.7760-1.7775

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8401-0.8405

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%
(Last changed 24/11/80)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 13½ Low 10
Week Fixed: 13¾-13⅞

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	13⅙	2 months	12⅞⅙
3 months	12⅞⅜	3 months	12⅞

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) / Trades (Dis%)

2 months	13¹⁵⁄₁₆-13¹³⁄₁₆	3 months	14½
3 months	13²⁹⁄₃₂-13¹⁹⁄₃₂	4 months	14¼
4 months	13⅝-13½	6 months	13¾
6 months	12¹⁵⁄₁₆-12¹³⁄₁₆		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15⅝-15⅛	7 months	14⅛-13⅞
2 months	15⅛-14⅞	8 months	14⅛-13⅞
3 months	14¾-14½	9 months	14⅛-14
4 months	14½-14¼	10 months	14⅛-14
5 months	14⅜-14⅛	11 months	14⅛-14
6 months	14⅛-13⅞	12 months	13¾-13½

Secondary Mkt. CCD Rates (%)

1 month	14½-14⅜	6 months	13¹⁵⁄₁₆-13¹³⁄₁₆
3 months	14½-14⅜	12 months	13⁹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14	3 months	14⅜
7 days	14¼	6 months	14
1 month	14½	1 year	13¾

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 14⅛ Close 10

1 week	14⅛-13⅞	6 months	13¹⁵⁄₁₆-13¹³⁄₁₆
1 month	14½-14⅜	9 months	13⅞-13¾
3 months	14½-14⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	13¹³⁄₁₆-13¹¹⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 15 6 months 14⅛

Finance House Base Rate 15½%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted*	divergence limit % plus/minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.3608	+3.95	+0.75	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.90814	+2.39	−0.81	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.56957	+3.52	+0.32	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.94469	+1.67	−1.53	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.79361	+1.82	−1.38	1.512
Irish punt	0.688201	0.691708	+3.52	+0.32	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1220.69	+5.43	+2.23	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 19¾-20¼: seven days, 19½-20: one month, 20⅝-20⅞: three months, 17¾-18: six months, 16⁹⁄₁₆-16¹³⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $573.75 (an ounce); pm, $574.75 close, $575.00.
Krugerrand (per coin): $590.50-592.50 (£245.50-246.50).
Sovereigns (new): $144.75-146.75. (£60-61).

Wall Street

New York, Jan 8.—Stock prices closed lower as the New York Stock Exchange index fell 1.09 to 76.20.

The Dow Jones industrial average lost 15.19 to 965.70 and declines led advances 1,022 to 567. Volume contracted to 55.53 million shares from the record 92.89 million traded yesterday.

The steep market fall yesterday came after Mr J. Granville, who publishes the *Granville Market Letter*, advised clients to sell because the market had "peaked".

Experts noted the market was already vulnerable to a setback because of the strong gain over the prior few weeks.

The market mounted two weak rallies today but they proved no match for the selling. When the second rally faltered, the slide quickened and the market closed near its low for the day.

There were few bright spots, mainly consumer goods issues the market had begun to favour before its sharp drop

Volume leader IBM lost 2¼ to 67½, Exxon 2¼ to 76⅜, Texaco 1⅛ to 45½, Boeing 1⅜ to 40 and LTV Corp ⅛ to 18½.

Among the actives, Mattel added ½ to 9⅝, Philip Morris ⅛ to 46⅞ and McDonald's 2⅛ to 54½. El Paso Co tacked on ½ to 23½.

Mobil said it completed tests on its B-08 well in the Hibernia area off Newfoundland and found it to be the most productive well there. However, Mobil lost 1⅞ to 76½. Mobil's partners in the well were unchanged to lower.

	Jan 8	Jan 7		Jan 8	Jan 7		Jan 8	Jan 7
[illegible]								
... El Paso Nat Gas	[illegible]	[illegible]	Pepsico	[illegible]	[illegible]	...		
Equitable Life	[illegible]	12	Pfizer	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mass-Fergsn	5	4⅞
Esmark	51	55½	Phelps Dodge	[illegible]	[illegible]	Royal Trust	20	19⅝
Evans P. D.	21⅛	21⅛	Philip Morris	46⅞	46⅝	Seagram	71½	71¼
Exxon Corp	76⅜	79⅝	Phillips Petrol	52¼	54⅝	Steel Co	36⅞	36½
Fed Dept Stores	30⅞	30¼	Polaroid	24⅞	25⅛	Thomson N 'A'	21⅞	21⅞
Firestone	10½	10½	PPG Ind	36⅛	37⅛	Walker Hiram	30⅛	30½
Fst Chicago	16½	17⅛	Proctor Gamble	70⅞	72⅛	WCT	14⅛	14⅛

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. t Traded. y Unquoted.

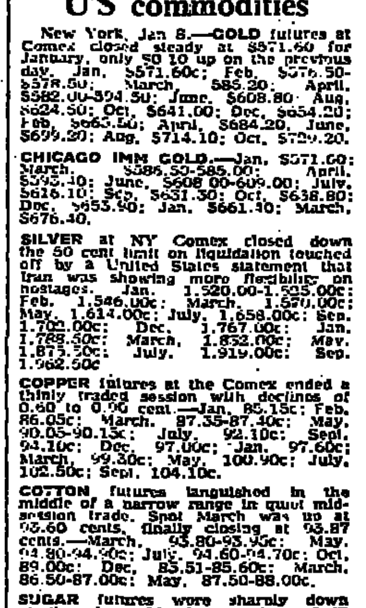
Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot 2.3975 (2.4062): three month, 2.4190 (2.4212): Canadian dollar, 1.1859 (1.1890).

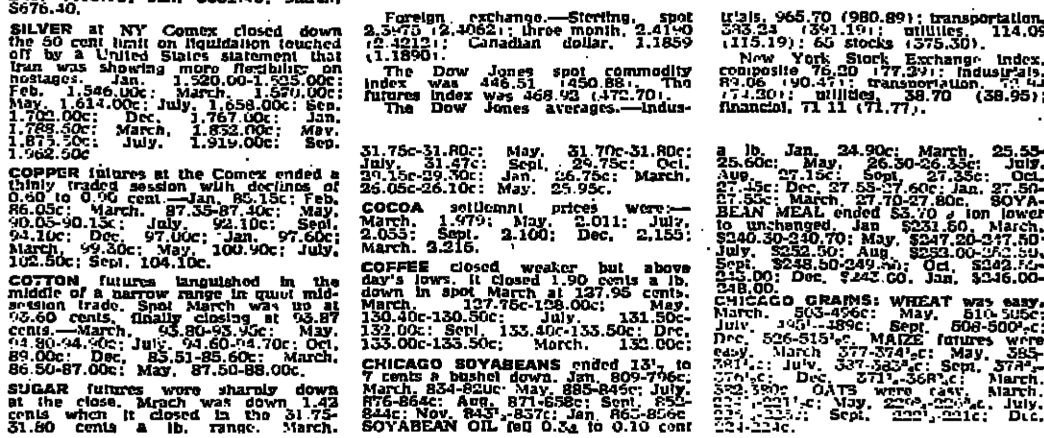
The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 446.51 (450.88). The futures index was 468.93 (472.70).

The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, 965.70 (980.89): transportation, 383.24 (391.19): utilities, 114.09 (115.19): 65 stocks (375.30).

New York Stock Exchange index, composite 76.20 (77.39): industrials, 89.06 (90.47): transportation, 73.41 (74.30): utilities, 38.70 (38.95): financial, 71.11 (71.77).

US commodities





New York, Jan 8.—GOLD futures at Comex closed steady at $571.60 for January, only $0.10 up on the previous day. Jan, $571.60c: Feb, $576.50-$578.50: March, $585.20: April, $582.00-594.50: June, $608.80: Aug, $624.50: Oct, $641.00: Dec, $654.20: Feb, $665.50: April, $684.20: June, $699.20: Aug, $714.10: Oct, $729.20.

CHICAGO IMM GOLD.—Jan, $571.60: March, $586.50-585.00: April, $595.40: June, $608.00-609.00: July, $616.10: Sep, $631.30: Oct, $638.80: Dec, $653.90: Jan, $661.40: March, $676.40.

SILVER at NY Comex closed down the 50 cent limit on liquidation touched off by a United States statement that Iran was showing more flexibility on hostages. Jan, 1,520.00-1,525.00c: Feb, 1,546.00c: March, 1,570.00c: May, 1,614.00c: July, 1,658.00c: Sep, 1,702.00c: Dec, 1,767.00c: Jan, 1,788.50c: March, 1,832.00c: May, 1,875.50c: July, 1,919.00c: Sep, 1,962.50c.

COPPER futures at the Comex ended a thinly traded session with declines of 0.60 to 0.90 cent.—Jan, 85.15c: Feb, 86.05c: March, 87.35-87.40c: May, 90.05-90.15c: July, 92.10c: Sept, 94.10c: Dec, 97.00c: Jan, 97.60c: March, 99.30c: May, 100.90c: July, 102.50c: Sept, 104.10c.

COTTON futures languished in the middle of a narrow range in quiet mid-session trade. Spot March was up at 93.60 cents, finally closing at 93.87 cents.—March, 93.80-93.95c: May, 94.80-94.90c: July, 94.60-94.70c: Oct, 89.00c: Dec, 85.51-85.60c: March, 86.50-87.00c: May, 87.50-88.00c.

SUGAR futures were sharply down at the close. March was down 1.42 cents when it closed in the 31.75-31.80 cents a lb. range. March, 31.75c-31.80c: May, 31.70c-31.80c: July, 31.47c: Sept, 29.75c: Oct, 29.15c-29.30c: Jan, 26.75c: March, 26.05c-26.10c: May, 25.95c.

COCOA settlement prices were:—March, 1,979: May, 2,011: July, 2,055: Sept, 2,100: Dec, 2,155: March, 2,216.

COFFEE closed weaker but above day's lows. It closed 1.90 cents a lb. down in spot March at 127.95 cents. March, 127.75c-128.00c: May, 130.40c-130.50c: July, 131.50c-132.00c: Sept, 133.40c-133.50c: Dec, 133.00c-135.50c: March, 132.00c.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS ended 13½ to 7 cents a bushel down. Jan, 809-796c: March, 834-820c: May, 885-845c: July, 876-864c: Aug, 871-858c: Sept, 852-844c: Nov, 843½-837c: Jan, 865-856c.

SOYABEAN OIL fell 0.34 to 0.10 cent a lb. Jan, 24.90c: March, 25.55-25.60c: May, 26.30-26.35c: July, Aug, 27.15c: Sept, 27.35c: Oct, 27.45c: Dec, 27.55-27.60c: Jan, 27.50-27.55c: March, 27.70-27.80c. SOYABEAN MEAL ended $3.70 a ton lower to unchanged. Jan, $231.60: March, $240.30-240.70: May, $247.20-247.50: July, $252.50: Aug, $253.00-253.50: Sept, $248.50-249.50: Oct, $242.50-245.00: Dec, $243.00: Jan, $246.00-248.00.

CHICAGO GRAINS: WHEAT was easy. March, 503-496c: May, 510-505c: July, 495½-489c: Sept, 508-500½c: Dec, 526-515½c. MAIZE futures were easy. March, 377-374½c: May, 385-381¼c: July, 387-383¾c: Sept, 378¾-376½c: Dec, 371½-368¾c: March, 392-390c. OATS were easy. March, 224-221½c: May, 226¾-225¾c: July, 225-225c: Sept, 222½-221c: Dec, 224-224c.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		Abbey Unit Trust Managers. 72-80 Gatehouse Rd, Aylesbury, Bucks. 0296-5941			
62.1	47.1	American Growth	57.9	62.3	2.38
		[illegible]			
		Crescent Unit Trust Managers Ltd. 4 Melville Crescent, Edinburgh 031-226 4931			
41.9	25.2	American Fnd	38.5	41.5	0.90
75.9	58.9	International	73.9	79.8	1.80
53.0	41.7	Reserves Fnd	47.8	51.6	5.57
43.7	40.4	High Dist	39.9	43.0	11.34
		[illegible]			
		M & G Securities. Three Quays, Tower Hill, EC3R 6BQ. 01-626 4588			
62.8	48.2	Amer & Gen Inc	59.3	63.7	2.15
66.5	50.0	Do Accum	62.9	67.6	2.15
64.6	45.1	Amer Recovery	61.0	64.7	1.87
66.5	45.3	Do Accum	[illegible]	66.7	1.87
		[illegible]			
		J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Ltd. 120 Cheapside, London, EC2 01-240 3434			
169.2	122.2	Capital (2)	159.1	171.8	2.81
217.1	153.6	Do Accum	204.2	219.5	2.81
[illegible]	182.1	Income (2)	200.3	215.3	9.23
381.6	295.0	Do Accum	345.5	371.5	9.23
		[illegible]			
		Barclays Life Assurance Co. Unicorn Hse, 252 Romford Rd, E7. 01-534 5544			
159.1	115.7	Barclaybonds	152.8	160.9	..
154.2	139.5	Equity 'B' Bond	144.4	152.0	..
125.4	112.1	Gilt Edge 'B' Bnd	119.9	126.3	..
154.5	136.8	Prop 'B' Bond	154.5	162.7	..
113.1	96.1	Inv B Bond	107.7	113.4	..
		[illegible]			
		Irish Life Assurance. 11 Finsbury Sq, London, EC2. 01-628 8253			
245.4	238.5	Prop Modules	234.2	246.6	..
255.5	270.9	Do Growth (31)	277.0	291.5	..
131.0	131.6	Do Series 2	129.8	136.6	..
150.2	135.9	Exempt Managed	147.3	155.1	..
		[illegible]			
		Prudential Pensions Ltd. Holborn Bars, EC1N 2NH. 01-405 9222			
36.10	29.90	Equity	£36.10	37.28	..
24.00	20.30	Fixed Int	£23.74	24.05	..
40.83	35.80	Property	£40.49	42.19	..
		Reliance Mutual Insurance Society Ltd. [illegible]			
		[illegible]			
		Vanbrugh Life Assurance Ltd. 41-43 Maddox St, London, W1R 9LA. 01-499 4923			
195.5	167.4	Managed Fund	189.1	199.1	..
332.8	259.4	Do Equity	313.1	329.6	..
194.3	173.3	Do Fixed Int	185.6	195.4	..
204.3	187.2	Do Property	204.3	215.1	..
		[illegible]			
		Offshore and International Funds			
		[illegible]			

Stock Exchange Prices

Rally after hours



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 24. Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, Jan 12. Settlement Day, Jan 19.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

1980/81 High	Low	Stock		Price	Ch'ge	Int. only Yield	Gross Red. Yield
BRITISH FUNDS							
SHORTS							
90	89¾	Treas	3½% 1979-81	89	+1/32	3.535	13.145
99	89	Treas	9¾% 1981	99	+1/32	9.835	13.642
97¾	91	Exch	8¼% 1981	97¾	..	8.440	13.907
97	91	Exch	9½% 1981	97	● ..	9.700	13.517
94	85½	Exch	3% 1981	94	..	3.191	13.494
100¼	93	Exch	12¾% 1981	99	..	12.774	12.945
96	88	Treas	8½% 1980-82	96	●−1/16	8.849	13.762
92¾	81¾	Treas	3% 1982	92	..	3.260	10.884
102¾	90½	Treas	14% 1982	100	..	13.988	13.236
94	85¾	Treas	8¼% 1982	93	−1/8	8.783	12.884
94	85¾	Exch	9¼% 1983	93	−1/8	9.849	13.323
93¾	84¾	Exch	8¾% 1983	92¾	−1/8	9.432	13.001
87¾	79½	Exch	3% 1983	85	..	3.530	11.134
98¾	85¾	Treas	12% 1983	97½	−1/16	12.293	13.282
94½	84½	Treas	9½% 1983	93	●−1/16	10.015	12.901
103	94	Exch	13½% 1983	100	−1/16	13.414	13.214
92¾	84	Exch	10% 1983	92½	−1/16	10.809	13.155
84½	76	Fund	5½% 1982-84	84½	● ..	6.509	11.741
97	86	Exch	11½% 1984	94	−1/16	11.859	13.277
104	94½	Exch	14% 1984	102¼	−1/16	13.690	13.144
78	68¼	Exch	3% 1984	78	+1/8	3.816	10.562
97	88	Treas	12% 1984	96	−1/16	12.387	13.080
106	97¾	Treas	15% 1985	105	−1/8	14.224	13.207
73½	63	Treas	3% 1985	73¼	−1/8	4.094	10.656
MEDIUMS							
101	89½	Exch	12¼% 1985	97	..	12.612	13.041
97¼	93½	Exch	11¾% 1986	96	−1/8	12.461	13.329
86	75	Treas	8½% 1984-86	85	●−1/4	9.995	12.343
102	90	Exch	13¼% 1987	98	●−1/4	13.368	13.480
81½	70¼	Fund	6½% 1985-87	78	−1/4	9.396	11.631
97¼	91	Treas	12% 1987	94	−1/4	13.021	13.203
81	71	Treas	7¾% 1985-88	77	●−1/4	10.002	12.693
64	54	Trans	3% 1978-88	61¼	−1/4	4.864	10.535

[illegible]

154	93	Slough Ests	173	−1	3.6	2.7	25.1
340½	234½	Stock Conv	330	+2	4.6	1.4	36.2
31¾	17¾	Town & City	23	−½	..	..	..
160	111	Trafford Park	144	−1	8.6	6.0	17.6
229	203	Trust Secs	213	−3	..	..	..
24½	14	Webb J.	20	−½	0.7	3.7	11.2
26¾	21	Wereldhave	£21	..	125	6.0	12.1
63	27½	W'mster & City	53	..	4.3	8.1	4.2

RUBBER

130	75	Barlow Hldgs	97	+2	4.3	4.4	..
555	305	Castlefield	440	..	8.6	1.9	..
57½	30½	Cons Plant	45½	..	3.5	7.7	..
196	115	Dunlanakande	165	● ..	4.3	2.6	..
938	627	Guthrie Corp	675	..	42.9	6.3	..
232	153	Harrisons Malay	166	−3	11.4	6.9	..
61½	45	Highlds & Low	47	..	2.1	4.6	..
740	485	Hongkong	740	● ..	60.0	8.1	..
545	363	Killinghall	540	..	20.0	3.7	..
465	290	Ldn Sumatra	335	−1	11.4	3.4	..
130	68	Maledie	78	..	3.2	4.1	..

TEA

248	198	Assam Frontier	203	..	14.3	7.0	..
485	350	Camellia Inv	423	..	5.7	1.4	..
378	279	McLeod Russel	298	+3	21.4	7.2	..
332	203	Moran	295	..	11.4	3.9	..
155	108	Surmah Valley	108	..	3.2	3.0	..
197½	132¾	Warren Plant	157	r −2	14.3b	7.6	..

MISCELLANEOUS

48	25	Calcutta Elec	28	..	7.0	25.0	..
33½	29½	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33½	..	500	14.9	..
27½	19	Gt Nthn Tele	£22	..	153	7.0	8.1
353	197	Imp Cont Gas	246	● −7	10.1	4.1	11.6
185	100	Milford Docks	101	..	9.8	9.7	..
136	89	Nesco Inv	127	−3	10.0	7.9	..
33½	29½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33½	..	538	16.1	..

● Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

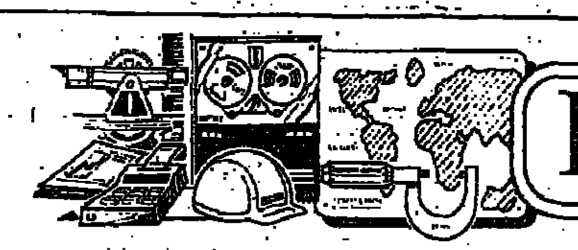
Closing Price

Allied London Prop 9½% Cnv 1999 (£) £3 prem−3

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هكذا من الأصل





Recruitment Opportunities



+++Engineers+++Overseas Appointments+++Accountancy+++Finance+++Sales+++Overseas Appointments+++Accountancy+++Finance+++Sales+++Marketing+++General+++Computing+++Management & Executive Appointments+++

AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION IS LOOKING FOR

INDUSTRIALISTS

of British, Dutch and Irish nationality, with the following qualifications:

— University degrees in Engineering, Business Management or Economics.
— 10-20 years of industrial experience after graduation having reached a managerial capacity and with experience from more than one industrial sector.
— Industrial experience from developing countries, particularly Africa, for a minimum of 3 years.
— Working knowledge in French.

Work will be related to industrial promotion, industry studies, marketing and *technical assistance, to industrial enterprises in developing countries and will* involve travel to these countries.
A few posts are expected to be filled at intermediate and senior or managerial professional level. Good salary in relation to European standards. Workplace: Brussels. Contracts for up to 4 years will be offered to qualified applicants.

APPLY BEFORE JANUARY 15th, 1981, TO BOX 2492 F, THE TIMES.

IMPORTANT NORTH GERMAN AUCTION HOUSE AND ART DEALER SEEKS

Experienced Auctioneer

with a good all-round trade knowledge in the art-historical branch, who would be responsible for the whole auctioneering programme. Where publications are concerned, he should also be responsible for the putting together of the ambitious auction catalogue. Staff already skilled in this type of work are available to help. This is a semi-independent post for the right person in a highly recommended house with excellent connections both at home and abroad.

Please write with details of past experience and curriculum vitae to Box 2308 F, The Times.

The Hongkong Bank Group

GRADUATE EXECUTIVE TRAINEES

The Hongkong Bank Group, with over 400 branches in 40 countries, is expanding rapidly and offers outstanding career prospects in international banking to young unmarried Graduates.

The Group wishes to recruit a limited number of Graduates as trainees for the International Executive staff. Interviews will take place in February and March 1981 and successful candidates will commence training in October 1981. After an initial training period they can expect to be posted either to Hong Kong or the Middle East. As executives on the international staff they can look forward to service in many parts of the world, often in challenging conditions.

Applicants will need to be able to accept responsibility at an early stage in their careers and personal qualities must include enthusiasm for working with people of various nationalities. Rewards will be commensurate with responsibility and conditions of service are excellent.

If you are graduating this year with an expectation of a good degree or are a young Graduate with some banking experience and feel that you would be interested in joining a progressive banking organisation then you should write to the following address giving full details of your background and educational qualifications:

The Manager Executive Recruitment & Training (London),
The Hongkong Bank Group,
P.O. Box 199, 99 Bishopsgate, London EC2P 2LA

THE FOOD AND DRINK INDUSTRIES COUNCIL

wishes to appoint an

ECONOMIST

with effect from 1st April 1981

The Council has been established since 1973 to speak with one voice on matters of common interest to *Ministers, Government Department and European Community* organisations in the name of a majority of the leading trade associations in the food and drink industries.

There is a vacancy for a graduate economist with industrial experience who, under the general direction of the Assistant Secretary-General, will provide the Secretary-General, and through him the Council, with advice on economic and statistical matters affecting the food and drink industries. An important part of this advice will be in relation to the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Community; familiarity with the essential features of the C.A.P. will be a necessary qualification, and a knowledge of French will be useful.

The person appointed will act as Secretary to the important Resources Committee of the Council, which is responsible for relations at policy level with the *National Farmers' Union: and will also be concerned* with such issues as competition policy, fair trading matters, the farm price review, and profitability levels.

Preferred age: 30 to 35

Salary: about £10,000 p.a.

Offices in Westminster, good conditions of service, contributory pension scheme, small enthusiastic team.

Write with full details of career and qualifications to the Secretary-General, Food and Drink Industries Council, 25 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0EX.

Group Secretary

Trade Association
Central London £8-9,000

A large and established Trade Association seeks to fill the integral and demanding position of Secretary of one of its three specialist groups.
The post, located in their Central London offices, requires an excellent Administrator with experience of committee work and writing reports and newsletters.
Your involvement will also include organising the group's AGM, vetting applications for membership and generally assisting group members with all their enquiries. The Secretary is the internal and external ambassador of the group's interests. Good presence and clear presentation both written and verbal are essential together with the ability to get on with people.
Specialist knowledge is not important and qualifications are not essential. The group will be more interested in your personal qualities and your energy and enthusiasm to make a continuously significant contribution as part of a dedicated team in a convivial working environment.
The salary of £8-9,000 is coupled with excellent benefits and the post will probably be most attractive to someone of at least 35 years, who is capable of furthering the interests of an industry with a genuinely bright future.



To apply please contact Halina Carter on 01-235 7030 ext 237, PER, 4/5 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7SB.
Applications are invited from both men and women.

PARK LANE HOSPITAL

CONSULTANT PSYCHIATRIST

Applications are invited for the post of Consultant Psychiatrist (2 posts) at Park Lane Special Hospital (*whole-time or maximum part-time*).
Park Lane is a new Special Hospital which opened its first 100 beds in September 1980 and will open a further 310 beds to a total of 410 in two further phases to be completed in mid-1984.
Each appointee will be responsible for a firm within this new developing hospital. There will be opportunities to develop special interests including, for example, electroencephalography, automated information storage and retrieval, psychotherapy and behaviour therapy. A formal link with the Liverpool University Department of Psychiatry is being arranged and it will be possible for suitable candidates to develop links with the local NHS psychiatric services and with the regional forensic services.
The posts are eligible for the Special Hospitals "lead" of £926 *per annum*. NHS *Conditions of Service and* superannuation apply.
The persons *appointed* should reside within reasonable distance of the hospital. Single or family accommodation may be available to rent if required.

Further details may be obtained from Doctor M. J. MacCulloch, MD, FRCPsych, Medical Director.

Applications forms can be obtained from the Secretary of the Advisory Appointments Committee, Park Lane *Hospital, School Lane, Maghull, Liverpool* L31 1HW. (Telephone no: 051-531 0022, extension 254). Applications to be returned by 31 January, 1981.

Judy Farquharson Limited
17 Stratton Street, London, W1X 5FD 01-493 8824

PROPERTY/FINE ART
Young energetic Director needs enthusiastic bright Secretary, aged 20-24. Good speeds essential. Luxurious happy W.1 offices. £5,500.

CITY P.R.
Secretary, early 20s, interested in the City and its institutions, to work for two nice men in small office. £5,500.

NEWS MEDIA
Secretary/Assistant with initiative for commercial news service, E.C.4. Good skills, organizing and some research. £5,500.

FED UP SECRETARY
Be a sales exec., S.E. London/Kent area. Micro computer parts. Enthusiasm, intelligence and smart appearance more *important* than experience as they will train. £5,000 + car and expenses.

TEMPORARY SECRETARIES
needed for Mayfair, West End and City. Good speeds essential.

JFL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Manager

Prestigious Tobacco Shops
Central London

Our client is a leading tobacco company and they wish to appoint a dynamic manager for a group of three prestigious tobacco shops in the West End and WC2 areas.
You are probably aged 30-40 years, with experience in the luxury retail field. A sound commercial and administrative background is essential, together with experience in the management of personnel, and the ability to *develop and implement new ideas.*
An attractive salary is offered plus the opportunity to earn commission and there are excellent fringe benefits.
Please write with full details. These will be *forwarded* direct to our client. List separately any companies to whom your application should not be sent: Ref. A.1796.
This appointment is open to men and women.

ASL CONFIDENTIAL RECRUITMENT
A member of MSL Group International
17 STRATTON STREET LONDON W1X 6DB

VACANCY FOR A WINNER

We want a profit-orientated, tough, confident, self-motivated person with good communication ability, to take responsibility for new business contacts for a Computer Service Company.

Reporting to the managing director, initially the job will involve much telephone contact but as he/she gains experience responsibility will be increased to a full-scale executive role.

Although the personal qualities mentioned are more important than specific computer experience, applicants should appreciate the role of computer technology in today's business world.

This is not an easy job. It involves considerable initiative and drive and consequently success will bring substantial financial reward.

Telephone Peter Hunter or Dawn Humphrey on 01-836 6775.

The Board of Governors of the Royal Marsden Hospital

Committee Clerk

Applications are invited for the post of Committee Clerk to serve the statutory Committees of the hospital, the Medical Committee and its Divisions and other meetings as required. Applicants must be experienced in committee work and have the ability to prepare agenda papers, take minutes and draft the proceedings of meetings.
The duties of this full time post are usually contained within normal office hours but *occasional* evening work will be necessary. The hours of the post are therefore negotiable according to the needs of the hospital.
Salary relevant to experience and hours worked.
Applications to the House Governor, Royal Marsden Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3, from whom further information is available. Telephone 01-352 8171, Ext. 203.

A CAREER WITH THE OBSERVER

We are looking for exceptional people to join our Classified Field Sales Force. Our reputation on Fleet Street is as an aggressive and highly trained team of young ambitious professionals.
If you would like to join us you must be prepared to *meet our high standards because selling newspaper* space demands an unusual combination of talents. You will need determination, energy, charm and the capacity to work consistently hard under pressure. You will need a high degree of courage too since your role will involve direct contact with the senior executives of large companies and advertising agencies.
You are likely to be youngish, and perhaps with some selling experience, though not necessarily in newspapers. In return for your qualities we will give you sales training second to none and a salary commensurate with the demanding nature of the job.
If you are confident and can persuade us that you are exceptional and would like to join our highly competitive world, write or telephone for an application form to:—

Jess Watts,
Classified Field Sales Manager,
The Observer Ltd., 8 St. Andrew's Hill,
London EC4V 5JA.
Tel.: 01-236 0202, Ext. 2317.

THE OBSERVER

ACCOUNTANT/BOOKKEEPER

An experienced bookkeeper required by a leading West End Fashion Company. This is a senior post for a qualified applicant. Top salary paid. Please telephone Mr Stern

01-636 6285

PARK LANE HOSPITAL

SENIOR REGISTRAR IN FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY

Applications are invited for this newly established post which provides specialist training in forensic psychiatry over a 3 year period.
Application forms and further details can be obtained *from B. N. Butcher, Deputy Administrator, Park Lane* Hospital, School Lane, Maghull, Merseyside L31 1HW (Tel: 051-531 0022, ext. 254). Applications to be returned by 31 January, 1981.

Interested in Admiralty work?

CLAIMS EXECUTIVE

required for International Marine Insurance Company

This is an excellent opportunity in the City for a Claims Executive, *preferably under 30, to work with a team* specialising in collision and other admiralty matters. Candidates should have a Master's or First Mate's certificate and we would be particularly interested in anyone holding a BSc in nautical studies.
An excellent salary will be paid to the successful candidate.

Please apply Box 2309 F, The Times.

TOP FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

with wide international horizons required by the largest daily newspaper in South Africa to join a team covering the fast growing economy of South Africa.
Excellent prospects for candidate capable of writing on all aspects of the financial scene, in the business capital of Johannesburg.
Attractive work conditions, *tax levels, medical aid* scheme, pension fund.
Apply in first instance to:

The Managing Editor,
Argus South African Newspapers Ltd.,
85 Fleet Street, London, EC4Y 1ED
Telephone: 01-353 3765

Marketing Executive

An exciting opportunity to join an International Publications Company in West London. Must have previous sales experience in publicity or similar. Degree desirable. Knowledge of foreign languages a plus. A rewarding and challenging career for the successful applicant. Age mid 20s. Attractive salary and benefits.

Write in confidence with full c.v. to Antonio Fernandes Tek International, 11 Uxbridge Road, Shepherd's Bush, London W12 8LH.

The Police Graduate Entry Scheme

The Police have an increasing need for highly qualified men and women. To meet this need a special Graduate Entry Scheme has been developed. Here is a basic outline of how it works.
What are the advantages of the Graduate Entry Scheme? Under the scheme you can put yourself forward for selection for the Special Course at the Police Staff College at Bramshill, Hampshire, even *before* you've got your degree or made a final decision on your future. This Course is for officers considered to have the potential for accelerated promotion to the rank of inspector and beyond early in their career.
Who can apply? Any graduate or undergraduate in the final year of a full time degree course up to the age of 30 and who meets the physical requirements may apply. Any University or CNAA degree is acceptable.
Can a police career make full use of a university education? The intellectual challenges of police work are considerable. Your ability and potential will be used to the full in combating the increasingly complex problems which today's society poses for the Police. You will find the work demanding, satisfying and rewarding. A real challenge.
What happens next? When we receive your application, the Chief Officer of the force you've chosen to join will take up your references and arrange for you to have a medical examination.
After a preliminary interview he will decide if you can be accepted into his force and whether or not to recommend you for an extended interview.
At the extended interview, which lasts for two and a half days, your accommodation is free and any travelling expenses will be paid for.
Within fourteen days of this interview, you'll be told of the result. If you've been successful, you'll receive final acceptance when you obtain your degree.
What about salary? If you're 22 or over when you join, you'll earn at least £5,919 (£7,314 if in London). On top of which there's free accommodation or a rent allowance — maximum £928 to £1,808 a year, depending on the area you work in.
Like to find out more? To discover more about a Police Career, contact your Careers Adviser or send in the coupon below.

FINAL CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: 31st JANUARY!

To Supt. John Adams B.A., Room 556, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT
Please send me your booklet and application form for: The Police Graduate Entry Scheme (closing date January 31st, 1981)

Name______ Age______
Address______
University/Polytechnic/College______
My Degree/Course______ Ends______

A POLICE CAREER
TI C6

Inner London Education Authority
LONDON COLLEGE OF FURNITURE
41-71 Commercial Road, London E1 1LA

LECTURER I

IN MUSICAL ACOUSTICS AND ACOUSTICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer I in Musical Instrument Technology. The successful applicant will be expected to lecture in Musical Acoustics and Acoustical engineering to students in T.E.C. Diploma and Higher Diploma courses in Musical Instrument Technology.
Salary: On an incremental scale within the range of £4,683-£8,055 (plus £759 Inner London Allowance). Starting point depending on qualifications, training and experience. Salary scale subject to formal approval.
Application form and further details are available from Senior Administrative Officer at the college.

INTER-CONTINENTAL HOTELS

require

SALES MANAGER

for their hotel in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. Considerable hotel sales experience combined with administrative and organisational ability essential. Post is residential and offers an attractive salary, full maintenance and other benefits.

Interviews will take place in London, January 27/28. Applications with full details of career to date should be addressed, in the first instance, to:

Mr. David Ballard, Vice-President Europe, Inter-Continental Hotels, 13-14 Hanover St., London, W.1.

2 BUYERS/PURCHASING OFFICERS

Aged 20-35 required by city based import/export shipping company. For the first position should have practical experience in industrial knitting, weaving textile machinery and yarns.

For the second position you should have experience in purchasing bulk commodities.

Salary will be commensurate with age and experience.

Applications with full c.v. to The Managing Director, N.B.R. (London) Ltd. 28-30 Rivington St., London, EC2 3DU. Telephone 01-739 4807.

Financial Manager M/F

Wanted for large Architectural Practice.
Applicants must have related qualifications and experience.
The position offers a high degree of responsibility and a salary of £12,000 p.a.

Please reply to Box 2446 F, The Times

RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES

will appear again next Thursday, and every Thursday in The Times.
For advertising details—

Ring 01-278 9161

THE HISTORIC HOUSES ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY-GENERAL

Applicants for this challenging post should be enthusiastic, articulate, and totally committed. Experience in administration, plus willingness to work long hours essential. Age 35-55. Remuneration negotiable.
Details from President, HHA, 10 Charles II Street, London, SW1. Applications to be returned on form provided by 21 January.

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
St Albans

If you are 25/30, personable, well educated, self motivated and have experience in engineering, sales and marketing or accountancy recruitment, we are interested in hearing from you. Good basic salary, profit share and other benefits. Contact L. F. LOCK, M.D., MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL, YORK HOUSE, CHERTSEY STREET, GUILDFORD (0483) 64857.

COURIERS.—French, German and Italian speaking students wanted to act as couriers on European campsites in 1981, either April/May to July or July to the end of September. Applications from couples welcome. Write giving details about yourself including the dates you are available to: Bernadette Kirrane, Eurocamp Travel Limited, Edmundson House, Tatton St., Knutsford.

FRENCH SPEAKING COUPLES wanted to act as site managers on French Riviera campsites mid-April to early October.—Write, giving full details, to: Julian Hawal, Seasons Holidays, Edmundson House, Tatton Street, Knutsford, Cheshire.

SALES EXECUTIVE

£15,000 +
Commissions and fringe benefits

Must speak fluent French, German and English. Rapidly expanding American company requires dynamic sales person. Tremendous opportunity for advancement and interesting travel to the Continent and U.S.
Write, telephone or telex to G. Scales, 89 Oakley Street, London SW3. 352 4892, Telex 916447.

INFORMATION OFFICE ASSISTANT

Young person required by the Ski Club of Great Britain. Knowledge of ski-ing and and resorts desirable. Should be able to type well. Pleasant environment. Comfortable hours.

Please ring the Secretary 235 4711

GENERAL MANAGER.—A highly motivated person, male or female, with ideas and initiative is sought by a reputable freight Container Leasing Company to take full charge of the business operations. A successful record of company management in similar field is needed. This post offers both challenge and opportunity and a salary, company car, etc., commensurate with responsibility. Write: S. Rich, TML Ltd., 39 High Street, Marlow, Bucks.

Exciting new complete and unique Conference/Training system requires nationwide self-monitoring and professional

SALES PERSONNEL

on freelance basis or agencies on regional franchise basis. Marketing and promotional support provided. Call V. C. Communications, 01-221 2020.

TWO YEARS AGO I WAS BROKE

Now I drive an Aston Martin, live in a 5 bedroom house, take my holidays abroad and earn a five figure income. I need two ambitious people to share in my success aged 22-40. Ring now: Terry Bilham on 01-404 4522 or 01-404 0113.

TRAINEE BARRISTER'S/CLERK.—EC4. Varied duties, including visiting Courts, looking after solicitors. 50 per cent outside work. Must be able to use initiative. Opportunity for advancement. O Levels essential. Aged 17-19. Salary £3,000. Call Sue Rayment 856 6207. Lawstaff Ltd., Recruitment Consultants.

EVENING NURSE RECEPTIONIST required for doctor's surgery, N.W.6. Salary negotiable. Phone 328 1803 (between 2 p.m.-7 p.m.).

OLD ESTB. stamp dealer requires Person Friday—see Sec Vacs.

FIT person wanted for 6 weeks work. Some travelling involved during move.—Brighton 695722 after 6 p.m.

Other Appointments on page 20

Motoring

42% of homes without a car in 1979

Private motoring is so much taken for granted these days that it always comes as a surprise to discover how many households in Britain are still without the regular use of a car.

According to statistics just issued by the Department of Transport, the number of car-less homes in 1979 was 42 per cent, which hardly squares with the popular view of a nation that has totally surrendered to the internal combustion engine.

And yet the figures also show that the car population has been rising steadily with results that are all too familar—increasing traffic congestion and pressure on parking space and a steady, probably irreversible, decline in public transport.

That seeming paradox may be explained by another set of official statistics which relate to one and two-car households. Going back to 1961, we find that only 2 per cent of homes had two or more cars. In 1979 the proportion was 13 per cent, a more than sixfold increase.

To make the point another way, the percentage of households with the use of one car was the same in 1979 as it was 10 years earlier. But the number of two-car homes over this period more than doubled. In other words, many of the extra cars were being acquired by households that already had one.

The implication is that Britain is in danger of becoming divided, in motoring terms, into haves and have-nots in a more profound way than ever before. Certainly there is much more difference in owning, or not owning, a car now than there was 25 years ago.

Until about the mid1950s car ownership in Britain was confined to a small minority. The mass of people used trains and buses as a matter of course, and in doing so created enough demand to ensure that public transport services were reasonably comprehensive.

But the dramatic expansion of the car population in the late 1950s and early 1960s meant that many who had been content to stand at bus stops or on railway platforms no longer needed to do so, nor, more important, were they prepared to.

During that period the Beeching report appeared, proposing drastic cuts in rail branch lines, and country bus services started to be withdrawn in large numbers. For those without a car it became increasingly difficult to get about.

Twenty years on, public transport in rural areas has been further depleted and even in the densely populated commuter areas of London there is talk of closing stations in the evening and at weekends.

As often happens, averages conceal wide variations. In the South-east, the South-west and East Anglia, car ownership extends to two households in three. But in Yorkshire and the North-east the proportion is only one in two, while in Scotland it is less than half.

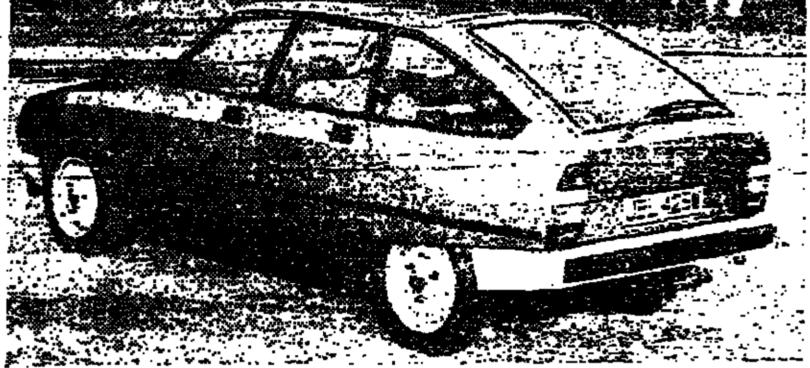
The Department of Transport forecasts a steady growth in the car population up to the end of the century and beyond. In 1978 there were 26 cars per 100 people and by 2005, according to the lower estimate, there will be 39, or half as many again. The upper estimate for 2005 is 45 per 100.

If those predictions are correct, the immediate question is where are all the extra vehicles to go. Already at certain times (rush hours in the big cities and in certain places (holiday resorts in season) there are too many cars for comfort.

The other consideration is how the future increase in the car population will be distributed. If recent trends continue more of the additional vehicles will go to households which already have cars than ones that do not, leaving the have-nots even more at the mercy of deteriorating public transport.

How reliable?

According to *Motoring Which?*, the magazine of the Consumers' Association, even cars up to three years old have a one in four chance of breaking down or failing to start once in a year, and three out of five are likely to suffer at least one major fault a year. On older cars, the chances of trouble are correspondingly higher.


Ten years on—the Citroen GSA

It is, of course, difficult to predict how reliable a car is going to be, though for many motorists such information is a lot more desirable than knowing the vehicle's technical specification or even its performance figures.

The only regular attempt to assess reliability, make by make, is that made by *Motoring Which?* on the basis of information supplied by a sample of members. Such data must, to some extent, be subjective and random though I am assured by the magazine that manufacturers do take its findings seriously.

The latest *Motoring Which?* survey, in which 22,000 motorists took part, confirms the traditional reliability of Japanese, German and Swedish makes: all appear in the two leading categories. The full list is as follows:

Goodies: BMW, Colt, Honda, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz, Opel, Toyota, Volkswagen/Audi and Volvo.
Almost goodies: Datsun, Saab and Vauxhall.
Cars in the middle: Austin Morris, Ford, Lada, Reliant, Rover, Skoda and Triumph.
Cars with weakspots: Alfa Romeo, Citroën, Jaguar/Daimler, Lancia, Peugeot, Renault and Talbot.
Baddies: Fiat and Polski-Fiat.

The high rating of Vauxhall—and particularly of the Cavalier model—reflects the striking improvement in the range in recent years. But *Which?* notes that in Rover's case, discontinued models are relatively more reliable than the current ones.

The report makes a useful distinction between mechanical reliability and deterioration through rust. It suggests, for instance, that while Datsun cars are likely to give little trouble, their corrosion record is worse than average.

Other makes let down by rust include Alfa Romeo, Citroën, *Jaguar/Daimler*, *Lancia* and Fiat. That again confirms the traditional view that the Italians, possibly because they enjoy a milder climate, have made less effort to combat corrosion than other car producing nations.

If there is a surprise in the report, it is the comparatively low ranking of Renault and Peugeot, two companies whose reputation on reliability has generally been good. In Peugeot's case the failings are said to be breaking down or failing to start—especially on newer cars—while Renaults are criticized for cold starting and rust on some models.

Two manufacturers, says the report, "sit firmly in disgrace"—Fiat, for two important weakspots, rust and starting, and the Polish Polski-Fiat for overall poor reliability. In the view of *Which?* the reliability record of these cars "should really make you refrain from buying them".

The report concludes by making the point that reliability is only one (although probably the most important) aspect of what makes a car nice to own. Things like comfort, performance, price and depreciation must also be taken into account.

Motoring Which? has attempted to do that and has produced a list of what it considers to be the best all-rounders. Those are: the Volkswagen Polo, the Honda Accord, the Vauxhall Cavalier (and its German equivalent, the Opel Ascona) and the Volvo 244.

It will be interesting, a year from now, to discover whether the Metro has done well enough on reliability to join this select band.

Citroën changes

There is no small/medium car that I would rather drive than the Citroën GS, or GSA as we must now call it. The superbly comfortable ride and seats, excellent roadholding and unburstable flat-four engine, combined with generous luggage and interior space, make it still, after more than 10 years, as good as any car in its class.

There are small, but worthwhile, revisions for 1981. They include carburettor modifications to improve fuel consumption, a new heating and ventilation system and a revised dashboard with the minor controls grouped handily on two pods, or "satellites", and a revolving drum speedometer (as on the CX model).

The four-door version of the car has been dropped, leaving a choice between five-door hatchback or estate, with prices starting at £3,964. Citroën expects the GSA to account for 35 per cent of its sales in 1981 and to help achieve a bigger share of what is bound to be a smaller market.

I suppose I should temper my enthusiasm for the car by mentioning the *Motoring Which?* criticisms of poor cold starting and, in older vehicles, serious rust.

Peter Waymark

Other Appointments on page 19

GENERAL VACANCIES

ST THOMAS' HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL

FIELDWORKER

Required mid February, to join team concerned with National Study of Health and Growth in Primary School Children. Appointment will based in London, but will be required to travel throughout the United Kingdom for approximately three to four months of the year.

Interest in health services research desirable, and a current driving licence is essential. Salary scale: £4,834—£6,312 plus £527 London Weighting. New entrants to the National Health Service start on the minimal level.

Job description and application form available at the above address and phone no. 01-928 9292 ext 514) or send personal application including a full Curriculum Vitae and names and addresses of two referees to: Ms G. M. Biggs (Personnel Officer), St Thomas' Hospital Medical School, Department of Community Medicine, Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EH. Closing date for all applications: 23 January 1981.

BIT

The Venezualan Technology Company, offers £750 per month on a flexible six month contract to software specialist in IBM S-34, S-36 with knowledge of teleprocessing applications.

Ring: 01-435 1860

INTERIOR DESIGNER in Pimlico requires Person Friday. Experience, helpful. Tel: 730 8467.

GENERAL VACANCIES

EGON RONAY ORGANISATION

require inspectors based in or within commuting distance from London. Constant motoring and long absences from home. Sound knowledge of international cuisine essential, catering background an advantage. Please write with detailed c.v. to Egon Ronay Organisation, Greencoat House, Francis St., London SW1P 1DH.

ENERGETIC PERSON

for well known Commonwealth charity to help administer diary of events, meet Commonwealth visitors and organise a new young travellers club.

Telephone 01-930 1671

RETIRED COMPANY SECRETARY required for Part-time duties. 2/3 day week. Hours neg. Write in confidence to Mr R. Fox Tudor Photographic Group Ltd., 30-32 Oxgate Lane, London, N.W.2.

CONSULTANT CARDIOLOGIST requires young physiotherapist and masseuse (M.C.S.P.) for training and practice in cardiac rehabilitation. Tel. 9359558.

COURIER, GREEK ISLANDS.—Specialist holiday company needs 4 super couriers including one couple. April-Oct. 3 or 6 month contracts. Telephone for full details and application form: Laskarina Travel. 062 982 2303/4.

SOUTH AMERICAN SPANISH Temp teaching post available now. London/Home Counties. Tel. 0565 2534.

GENERAL VACANCIES

COURIERS.—French, German and Italian speaking students wanted to act as couriers on European campsites in 1981, either April/May to July or July to the end of September. Applications from couples welcome.—Write, giving details about yourself including the dates you are available, to: Bernadette Kirrane, Eurocamp Travel Limited, Edmundson House, Tatton St., Knutsford, Cheshire.

HELP.—We help you to get that job. Professionally typed C.V.'s/resumees. Other help in "packages" available. Samples/prices 07048 79186 (24 hrs.).

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

university college of swansea

Chair of Zoology

Applications are invited for the *Chair of Zoology* and the Headship of the Department of Zoology, which will become vacant on September 30, 1981, at the retirement of Professor E. W. Knight-Jones.

Further particulars may be obtained from the undersigned, University College of Swansea, Singleton Park, Swansea, SA2 8PP, to whom applications (10 copies) should be sent by Saturday, February 14, 1981.

Aneurin Davies
Registrar

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Bath

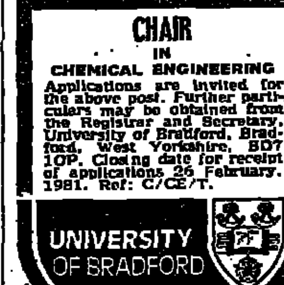
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT

Applications are invited from both qualified practitioners and academics for a lectureship in each of the following fields:

1. MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING OR FINANCIAL CONTROL (REF. 80/177)
2. INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS AND MARKETING (REF: 80/178)

Tenable from 1st September, 1981.
Salary range £6,505-£11,575.
Application forms and further details of the posts may be obtained from the Personnel Officer University of Bath, Bath, BA2 7AY.
Closing date for applications 4th February, 1981.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS




CHAIR IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Applications are invited for the above post. Further particulars may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary, University of Bradford, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD7 1DP. Closing date for receipt of applications 26 February, 1981. Ref: C/CE/T.

UNIVERSITY OF BRADFORD

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

UWIST
University of Wales

THE WELSH SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

PROFESSOR AND HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Salary: above £17,000

Requests (quoting Ref. T) for details to Personnel Section (Academic), UWIST, Cardiff CF1 3NU
Closing date: 6 February, 1981.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE FACULTY OF LAW

Two Assistant Lecturers

in the Faculty of Law to take up appointment on 1 October, 1981, or as soon as possible thereafter. Further information from The Secretary, Faculty of Law, Syndics Building, Mill Lane, Cambridge CB2 1RX. Applications (one copy) including curriculum vitae and the names of two referees, to reach him not later than 31 January, 1981.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

SOLICITOR, experienced in trusts, for large well-established London firm. 6 months to 2 years qualified experience necessary.—Law Recruitment Services (Rec Cons) 242 8525.

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MALE Cambridge graduate, M.A., Ph.D. (science), 27, with proven record in Physical Distribution Management and Export Sales, seeks challenging new career opportunities. No restriction to mobility.—Box 2440 F, The Times.

FRENCHMAN, 30, "A" level. Clean driving licence. English-Italian-speaking. Seeks anything legal.—Tel. 01-354 3363.

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S.W.12—M/F. O/R. 4 mins tube & Common. £26 p.w. 675 5473 eves.

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N.W.2. Over 25 f. to share lovely large Flat with garden with 1 other: own room: C.H.: £150 p.m. excl. 452 8664.

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OFF WALTON STREET, S.W.3.—Till June, big room. £35 incl. 370 7239.

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N.2.—2nd prof own dbl/room in nice house. £130 pcm inc. 883 5807 eves.

WANDSWORTH.—Prof person to share lovely house and garden with girl and 5-yr-old daughter, own room with double bed, every mod con: £45 p.w. inc. Tel. 870 1869.

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MARBLE ARCH.—Luxury flat. Share double room. 25+. £46 p.w. incl. C.H. & H.W. Tel. 723 3533 eves.

PIED-A-TERRE in S.W.1 flat. Suit professional person. £40 p.w.—730 7147 after 2 p.m.

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HYDE PARK, W.2.—Exceptional value. 1st floor, 2 bds., 1 recep., kit. & bath., roof terrace. C.H. Avail now. Long or short let. £95 p.w.—Allen Bates & Co., 499 1665.

DULWICH.—Spacious well furnished modern flat with 2 bedrooms, gas C.H., gge. £70 p.w. Tel. J.W. Ltd., 949 2482.

BAYSWATER RD.—Mod. block, 3 bedrooms, double recep., k. & b. 5 years. £8,500 p.a. Carpets, curtains, part contents £15,000. Crouch & Lees. 493 9941.

ST. JOHN'S WOOD, N.W.8.—Small furnished one-bed, terraced cottage. Suit single person or couple. Roof terrace. Gas C.H. £120 p.w. 01-624 2122.

HYDE PK. GDNS, W.2.—O'looking park. Interior designed flat. 2 beds., recep., superb k. & b. Long let. Plaza Estates. 262 7097.

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RENTALS

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RUCK & RUCK, 581 1741. Quality furnished houses for long lets needed urgently and also available. Ideal tenants looking.

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AN IMMAC. spacious family hse. S. Finchley: 4 beds, 2 baths, 2 recept. kit/breakfast. Vacant Feb. £175 p.w.—491 2572/586 3806.

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SUPERIOR Flats & Houses available & required for Diplomats, Executives. Long or short lets in all areas. Lipfriend & Co. 48 Albemarle St. W.1. 499 5334.

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RENTALS

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Superbly converted Mid Victorian terraced house on 4 levels 2/3 bedrooms, 2 baths incl. sauna, 2/3 receps., fully equipped kit/breakfast room, patio, excellent F & F. Gas C.H., intercom, new carpets, curtains & many extras. Must be seen. To let at £275 p.w. 9-18 months or Freehold £148,000 incl. contents both neg.

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WOULD AMERICANS seeking furnished accommodation in London or Surrey please first telephone Allison Terry of SAUNDERS Kensington. 01-581 3623.

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THE RUSKIN PIANO CO.—January sale. See "For Sale" columns.

(continued on page 22)

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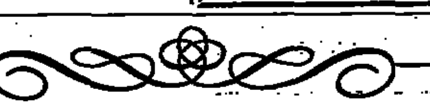
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Notice is hereby given that the Annual Shareholders' Meeting of the Company will be held at 9 a.m. on January 26th, 1981, at Grosvenor Hotel, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1. Apart from the review of the 1980 fiscal year accounts the agenda includes thereof renewal of the Board of Directors and will deal with any matters arising from the Company's business. Access to the meeting is restricted to shareholders on presentation of their share certificate or to shareholder representatives on presentation of a proxy issued by the Company not later than 3 days before the meeting.

J. Willcox,
Chairman.

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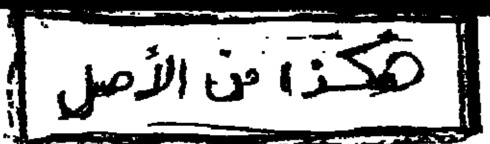
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هكذا من الأصل

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

PERSONAL CHOICE

Bill Maynard in the first episode of The Gaffer (ITV, 8.30)

● With Peter Butler's film The Grand Age of the Garden (BBC 2, 8.10), the BBC adjusts the balance that, thanks to Candida Lycett-Green's and Edward Mirzoeff's memorable documentary The Front Garden, was weighted in favour of Everyman, his wife, and their living pocket handkerchief. Tonight's film deals with the grand design, the sweeping acres, and the ornamental wonderlands created by men like Joseph Paxton and Charles Barry. The astonishing thing is that the revolutionary changes in garden design which have produced the beautiful vistas we enjoy today, all took place over a period of only a century and a half. I am grateful to Mr Butler for making it possible for me to wander, in the bleak midwinter, through the summer delights of Chatsworth, Sissinghurst and Shrubland Hall.

● Out of the diaries of John Fothergill, cholar, asthete, snob and despot, Robert Holles has fashioned tonight's play, Fothergill, (BBC 2, 9.00), a memorial to eccentricity, with knobs on. I don't think I have ever seen anything quite like it on television before. In the 1920s, Fothergill bought a pub where farmers gurgled and pinched the salt cellars. He determined to convert it into the "Eton of public houses". Out went the yokels, in came society—writers, actresses, politicians, pillars of the law. He deferred to nobody, was monumentally insulting, and purred with sensuous delight at catering to the intelligent, the beautiful, the well-bred. He was an altogether impossible man, and the social purification he aimed at inevitably carried the seeds of *his own downfall. Robert Hardy plays Fothergill in the only way the character could be played: as someone from Another World.* It is a brilliant characterization.

● Those of us who cannot pick up BBC Radio Scotland have had to wait over a year to hear the work which won the Pye/Society of Authors award for the best original play of 1980. It is Catherine Lucy Czerkawska's O Flower of Scotland, and you can hear it on Radio 4 at 3.02. It is the story of a rape, and the outraged woman is played by Harriet Buchan ... Tonight's play on Radio 3 (10.30) is the third and last of the week's spoof detective stories from the pens of Jorge Luis Borges and Adolfo Bioy Casares. They are about an Argentine "detective", played by Peter Woodthorpe, who solves three byzantine murders while incarcerated in a cell.

● The Radio 4 profile of the actor Alan Howard which, despite my recommendation that everyone should listen to it was whipped out of the schedule last week, is put back tonight (8.10) ... There are two other spoken-word programmes I must bring to your notice: The Wit and Wisdom of Dylan Thomas (Radio 4, 11.30), with recordings from the BBC archives, and Poetry Up to Now (Radio 4, 4.15), the first of eight programmes, about British poets since the war. Tonight, inter alia, the verse of Auden and Empson.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

TELEVISION

BBC 1

12.45 pm News. And weather forecast.
1.00 Pebble Mill at One. Today's edition includes another of Peter Seabrook's gardening features.
1.45 How Do You Do? Rhymes and counting games for the very young. The story, The Cupboard Door, is illustrated by Joan Hickson (r).
2.00 International Tennis. Live transmission of the Braniff Airways World Doubles Championship, from Olympia in London. The winners of today's games will go forward to the semi-finals to be played tomorrow. Further coverage on BBC 1 at 11.50 and on BBC 2 at 3.55.
3.55 Play School. Kathy Squires's story The Lazy Line and the Bouncy Line. Also to be shown on BBC 2 at 11.00
4.20 Heyyy, It's the King. Cartoon. The Great Billionaire Chase Case; 4.30 Jackanory: Colin Jeavons completes his readings from William Browning's Grimm Grange. The illustrations are by Gavin Rowe.
4.45 Think Again: Johnny Ball, examining the amount of water we use daily, naturally enough discusses toilets; 5.10 Grange Hill.

This is part 4 of the serial about the comprehensive school. Stewart (Mark Burdis) falls foul of Mr Hicks (Paul Jerricò), the PE master; 5.35 Ivor the Engine: Today's story is The Cuckoo Clock.
5.40 News: with Kenneth Kendall; 5.55 Nationwide. Including Alan Titchmarsh's gardening guide, and the special item for pet owners. Desmond Lynam's Sportswide is at 6.45.
7.00 The Superstars. Olympic champions Duncan Goodhew and Allan Wells are among those chasing a place in the semi-final. The rest include Mike Hazlewood, David Jenkins, Brian Henton, Jeff Squires, Arthur Mapp and Chris Mahoney.
8.00 To Serve Them All My Days: Episode 12 of this public school story. David (John Duttine) takes on a Jewish German boy (Ian Sears) *who is bullied by some of* the older boys; 8.50 Points of View: Amusing Barry Took finds fun in viewers' letters.
9.00 News: with Richard Baker. 9.25 Starsky and Hutch. Dave's girlfriend turns out to be the daughter of a gangster whom the police are anxious to convict (r).
10.15 Peter Skellern. Repeat, from BBC2, of this likeable musician's life story, told by himself. With the children of Derby School, Bury, and Besses o' th' Barn Band.
10.45 News. And weather forecast.
10.50 Royal Heritage. Second screening of all 10 films in Huw Wheldon's series about Britain's royal builders and collectors. The Queen talks about the Imperial State Crown, the Palace of Westminster, Edward I's castles in Wales and St George's Chapel, Windsor.
11.50 International Tennis. Highlights from today's play in the Braniff Airways World Doubles Championship. Ends at 12.45 am.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS: Cymru/Wales: 1.45 pm-2.00 O Dan y Mor. 4.45-5.10 Dilird Newydd. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.00-7.25 Heddiw. 7.30-8.00 ... 10.15-17.00 Music Makers. 11.00-11.01 News. 11.01-12.00 Royal Heritage. 12.00 midnight: International Tennis. 12.45 am Close. Scotland: 12.40 pm-12.45 Scottish News. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland: 10.15-10.45 The Evergreen Years. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.45 am Close. Northern Ireland: 3.53 pm-3.55 News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.45 am News. England: 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional magazines. 10.15-10.45 East: Weekend. London, South East: Peter Skellern. Midlands: Midlands tonight. North: Politics North. North East: Mike on Friday. North West: Home Ground. South: The Pacemakers. South West: Brenda Wootton in The Round. West: A Barrage of Questions. 12.45 am Close.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School. Same as BBC 1, 3.55. Closedown at 11.25.
3.55 pm International Tennis. Live coverage of today's play in the Braniff Airways World Doubles Championship, from The Grand Hall at Olympia, in London.
5.40 Laurel and Hardy: Helpmates (1931*) Generally regarded as one of this couple's best short films. It's the one about their attempt to clean up Oliver's house after a party and before Mrs Hardy returns. Disaster after disaster, ending with the house's complete destruction.
6.00 Monkey: Japanese-made story of Old China and the odd odyssey of Tripitaka (Masako Natsume) and his boon companions. With dubbed English dialogue. Subtitles might—might I—have helped, but I doubt it.
6.45 Day Out. Minehead and Dunster. Film about adjoining holiday towns on the Somerset coast. The reporter is Derek Jones.
7.15 When the Bough Breaks: Another report by John Thaw on the emotional difficulties that can arise between parents and children. Tonight, the mother and son who are at loggerheads. Enter a psychiatrist.
7.30 News: with sub-titles for the hard of hearing.
7.40 In the Country: The Business of Salmon. Angela Rippon's guests are the marine biologist Derek Mills who has studied the way of the salmon from Greenland to Scotland, and Gordon Beningfield, country artist and keen fisherman who is seen visiting a salmon farm on Loch Sunart.
8.10 The Grand Age of the Garden. The history of garden design from 1800 to the present day. Visits to Alton Towers, Chatsworth, Shrublands Hall and Sissinghurst Castle. Commentary by Rene Cutforth (See Personal Choice).
9.00 Playhouse: Forthergill. Robert Holles's play is about John Fothergill who in the early 1920s bought the Spread Eagle Inn at Thame and made up his mind to turn it into England's most celebrated hostelry. It was patronized by the famous. Robert Hardy plays Fothergill and the cast also includes Lynn Farleigh, John Bird (as H. G. Wells) and Jeremy Sinden (as Evelyn Waugh) (See Personal Choice).
10.10 Maestro: Denis Compton—Cricketer. He re-lives his distinguished past in conversation with Frank Keating.
10.45 Newsnight: News bulletins and the stories behind the headlines.
11.30 Film: The Big Heat (1953) Tough tale of an honest policeman (Glenn Ford) who takes on a corrupt force and gangland in an effort to track down his wife's killers. With Gloria Grahame, Lee Marvin. Director: Fritz Lang* Film ends at 1.00 am.

THAMES

9.30 The Masterbuilders: The story of Eddystone lighthouse (r).
9.55 The Coral World: Night Prowlers of the Deep. Life in the waters off Australia's coastlines (r). 10.45 Young Ramsay: A father is opposed to a friend his son makes. 11.35 Superstar Profile: Interview, in Hollywood, with comedy actor Gene Wilder.
12.00 The Magic Ball: Eric Thompson tells Gerald Hagen's story of The Princess in the Castle. 12.10 Once Upon a Time. Peter Davison tells the story of The Golden Fish. 12.30 A Better Read: Bill Grundy's books programme. The Subject today: science fiction.
1.00 News. 1.20 Thames News.
1.30 Together: Tales of the people who live in a block of flats. Televised live.
2.00 After Noon Plus: The Duke of Edinburgh is interviewed by Mavis Nicholson. He talks about his award scheme for youngsters.
2.45 Film: A Message to My Daughter (1973). Television movie about a 19-year-old girl (Kitty Winn) who clashes with her father (Martin Sheen), her stepmother (Jan Shutan), and society.
4.15 Watch It! A story of Dr Snuggles, the inventor. 4.20 The Adventures of Black Beauty. Another chance to see these stories of a girl (Stacy Dorning) and her horse. 4.45 Animals in Action: Up, Up and Away. Film about animals that fly—including the lemur, frog, lizard and squirrel. With Keith Shackleton.
5.15 Clapperboard. Film clips programme, *presented by Chris Kelly*. The films include The Dogs of War. 5.45 News. 6.00 Thames news. 6.30 Thames Sport.
7.00 Family Fortunes. The return of the Bob Monkhouse quiz show. There is a new feature called "Hidden prizes".
7.30 Vegas. The Day the Gambling Stopped. Thriller about a private detective, (Robert Urich). Tonight, a two-million-dollar surplus of chips at the gambling casinos—and why the private eye is called in to investigate.
8.30 The Gaffer: First in a new series of comedies starring Bill Maynard as the managing director of a light engineering company that is heading for the rocks.
9.00 The Good Companions: Penultimate episode in this musical version of J. B. Priestley's novel a out a troupe of travelling entertainers. Tonight: Why Jess Oakroyd (John Stratton) turns detective, and what happens to Miss Trant (Judy Cornwell) when she goes to hospital.
10.00 News from ITN. 10.30 Benson. Comedy series about the black butler (Robert Guillaume). Tonight: the butler nearly freezes to death.
11.00 The London Programme. An investigation of London's auction rooms where mistakes have recently cost the auctioneers and art dealers sums totalling many hundreds of thousands of pounds.
11.35 Mannix. Police thriller. The death of an Indian, and how it puts a detective (Mike Connors) in considerable danger.
12.25 Close. William Rees-Mogg, the editor of *The Times*, with another *reading from Bishop* Berkeley's Alciphron, the 18th century philosophical work.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.45 Story: Old Age, by Chekhov.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs.
9.45 Feedback.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: Amigas, by Zorina Ishmail-Bibby.
11.00 News.
11.05 The Seaside in Winter.
11.50 Natural Selection.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 What Ho! Jeeves.
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Award Winners: O Flower of Scotland.† (See Personal Choice.)
4.05 Senses of Occasion.
4.15 Poetry Up to Now (1). (See Personal Choice.)
4.45 There Came Both Mist and Snow (5).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile. (See Personal Choice).
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 Lord Jim (5).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 The Wit and Wisdom of Dylan Thomas. (See Personal Choice.)
11.45 Friday Treat.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.
VHF
10.30 am-10.45 Listen With Mother.
11.00 pm-12.00 Study on 4: Kontakte (11): Allez France!

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Weber, Willcocks, Alwyn, Glasunov.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Handel, Spohr, Prokofiev.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Mozart (incl K595).†
10.00 Songs: Moniuszko, Wolf, Borodin.†
10.40 Quintet: Reicha, Ligeti, Ibert.†
11.30 Piano (Latham-Koenig): Berg (op 1), Henze (Lucy Escott), Janacek.†
12.15 pm BBC Northern SO/ Ajmone-Marsan (live from RNCM, Manchester), pt 1: Haydn (Sym 98), Bartok.†
1.00 News.
1.05 Story: The Story-Teller, by Saki.
1.20 BBCNSO, pt 2: Schubert, Stravinsky (Divertimento).†
2.05 What the Critics Said (1).
2.55 Cello, piano (Palm/Aloys Kontarsky); pt 1: Beethoven (op 102 no 2), Webern (incl Sonata), Penderecki.†
3.25 Interval reading.
3.30 Cello, piano, pt 2: Reger, Brahms.†
4.20 BBC Singers/Portman: Gershwin, Gardner, etc.†
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
6.55 Play it Again: preview.†
7.00 Record: Debussy (Nocturnes).†
7.30 Piano (Crossley), pt 1: Beethoven (op 28), Chopin, Ravel.†
8.25 One Pair of Ears: review.
8.40 Piano, pt 2: Brahms (Handel variations).†
9.20 Music in Our Time: 1980 *International Rostrum of Composers*.†
10.30 Three Problems for Don Isidro Parodi (3).
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Dvorak.†
VHF
11.15 pm-11.55 Open University: The Pre-School Child—Talking to Each Other; Consumer Decisions—Citizens Advice.

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Bob Kilbey.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm Ray Moore.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† *4.03 Much More Music.† 6.03* John Dunn.† 8.02 Friday Night is Music Night.† 9.55 Sports Desk. 10.02 Listen to Les. 10.30 The Organist Entertains. 11.03 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Steve Wright. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.32 Dave Lee Travis. 4.32 Peter Powell. 5.30 Newsbeat. *5.45 Roundtable. 7.31* Anne Nightingale. 10.02 Friday Rock Show.† 12.00 Close.
VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):
6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Merchant Navy Programme. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Intermezzo. 8.30 The Book Programme. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 Music Now. 10.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 10.30 What Ho, Jeeves. 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 In the Meantime. 11.25 Ulster Newsletter. 11.30 Assignment. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm Jazz for the Asking. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Sadler's Wells. 2.15 Letterbox. 2.30 John Peel. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Theatre Call. 4.35 Letter from London. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 The Week in Wales. 5.15 Music Now. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four hours. 9.15 Time Off. 9.45 Letter from London. 9.55 Frequency Information. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 The Week in Wales. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 From the Weeklies. 11.30 What Ho, Jeeves. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 About Britain. 12.45 Sarah and Company. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Dancers of the Renaissance. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Network U.K. 2.30 The Book Programme. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Just a Minute. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only; med wave *720kHz/417m*. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF. Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Channel

As London except: Starts 12.30 pm-1.00 Better Read. 1.20-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (Marilyn Monroe). 6.00 Channel Report. 6.30 Headline. 6.55 What's On Where. 7.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.28 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05 Friends of Man. 11.35-12.30 am SWAT.

Border

As London except: Starts 9.35 am Tarzan. 10.30-12.00 Film: Starbird and Sweet William. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Make me an Offer (Peter Finch). 6.00 Look Around. 6.30-7.00 Survival. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Look Who's Talking. 11.00 Quincy. 11.55-11.58 News.

Yorkshire

As London except: 9.30 am Indians of North America. 9.45 Laurel and Hardy.* 10.05 Wilderness Alive. 11.00 Young: 11.55-12.00 Bubbles. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Appointment in Honduras (Glenn Ford). 6.00 Calendar. 6.30 Ramsey. 7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Hawaii Five-O 10.30 Soap. 11.00 Snooker. 11.45-12.40 am Lou Grant.

ATV

As London except: Starts 9.45 am Sesame Street. 10.45 Survival Special. 11.35-12.10 Young Country. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Twenty Mule Train* (Wallace Beery). 6.00 Report West. 6.30-7.00 WKRP in Cincinnati. 7.30-8.30 Chips. 10.28 News. 10.35 Report Extra. 11.05 Benson. 11.35-12.30 am Charlie's Angels.

Granada

As London except: 9.30 am Stationary Ark. 9.55 Lone Rangers Show. 10.15 World Leaders. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 2.45-4.15 Film. Rawhide* (Tyrone Power, Susan Hayward). 6.00 *Granada Reports. 6.30-7.00 Kick Off.* 10.30 Week on Friday. 11.00 Alter All That, This. 11.10-1.35 am Film: Andromeda Strain (James Olsen).

Grampian

As London except: Starts 9.40 am First Thing. 9.45 Wild, Wild World of Animals. 10.10 Chopper Squad. 11.05 Story of Wine. 11.30-12.00 George Hamilton IV. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Appointment in Honduras (Glenn Ford). 6.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Points North. 11.30 Reflections. 11.35 Streets of San Francisco. 12.25 am Reachd Laithean. 12.40-12.45 News.

Southern

As London except: 9.30 am Kum Kum. 9.55 World of Wizards. 10.45 Tarzan. 11.45-12.00 Larry the Lamb. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Houseparty. 3.10-4.15 Fantasy Island. 5.15-5.45 Gambit. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.00 Scene South East. 6.30-7.00 Out of Town. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.35 World Apart. 11.20 Benson. 11.50 Film: In the Year of 13 Moons (Volker Spengler). 1.50 am Weather followed by Just Men.

HTV

As London except: 12.00-12.10 pm Ffalabalam. 4.15-4.45 Aderyn Dychryn. 5.15-5.45 Muppet Show. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.35-11.05 Outlook.
As London except: Starts 9.55 am Call It Macaroni. 10.20 Arts for Whom? 11.10-12.00 Chopper Squad. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: Monolith Monsters (Grant Williams). 6.00-7.00 ATV Today. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Soap. 11.00 News. 11.05-1.00 am Film: Ash Wednesday (Elizabeth Taylor, Henry Fonda).

Anglia

As London except: 9.30 am Pavilion Folk. 9.55 Light of Other Days. 10.45 Patterns. 11.10-12.00 Something Special. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Houseparty. 3.10-4.15 Film: Saps at Sea* (Laurel and Hardy). 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.30 7 Days Unemployment Special. 11.00 Soap. 11.30 Film: Why Rock the Boat? (Stuart Gillard). 1.35 am At the End of the Day.

Ulster

As London except: Starts 10.00 am Spiderman. 10.15 World Leaders. 11.00 Story Hour. 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 2.45 Film: Message To My Daughter (Martin Sheen). 4.13-4.15 News. 6.00-7.00 Good Evening, Ulster. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Sportscast. 11.05 Beyond Westworld. 12.05 am-12.15 Bedtime.

Scottish

As London except: 9.30 am At Your Fingertips. 9.40 Friends of Man. 10.05 Wilderness Alive. 11.00 Restoration of the Night Watch. 11.50-12.00 Bubbles. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45-4.15 Film: How to Break Up a Happy Divorce (Barbara Eden, Hal Linden). 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.25 Sports Extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 7.30-8.30 Thingummyjig. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call 11.05-12.35 am Film: Quick Let's Get Married (Ginger Rogers, Ray Milland).

Westward

As London except: 9.30 am Amazing Years of Cinema. 9.55 Dinah Saur. 10.10 Clues. 11.00-12.00 Sesame Street. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 2.45 Film: Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (Marilyn Monroe, Jane Russell). 4.12-4.15 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 6.00-7.00 Westward Diary. 7.30-8.30 Incredible Hulk. 10.32 News. 10.36 Soap. 11.05 Politics West. 11.35 SWAT. 12.30-12.35 am Faith For Life.

Tyne Tees

As London except: Starts 9.20 am Good Word. 9.25 News. 9.30 Survival. 9.55 Showjumping with Harvey Smith. 10.20 Music Special. 11.20 Home Nursing. 11.50-12.00 Sally and Jake. 1.20 pm-1.30 News, Lookaround. 2.45-4.15 Film: Never Mind the Quality Feel the Width (John Bluthal, Joe Lynch). 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.25-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Charlie's Angels. 10.30 News. 10.32 Film: Man Inside (Jack Palance). 12.30-12.35 am Countryside Christian.

Classified Guide

Box No. replies should be addressed to:
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THE TIMES

9 ★★★★ First Published 1785

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 20

DEATHS

BURROUGH.—On Wednesday, January 7th, 1981, suddenly, John Edward, dearly loved younger son of Edward and Eirene Burrough, of 13 Hope St., St Andrews.

1981 *LANGS SUPREME* Times National Crossword Championship

Competitors may qualify by correctly solving and submitting this puzzle. They should complete the puzzle and entry form and post it with entry fee of £1.50 (or two crushed Langs Supreme Scotch Whisky bottle tops) and a stamped and addressed envelope (for notification of result of entry) by first class mail to National Crossword Championships, 7 Stratford Place, London W1A 4YU, so that the entry is postmarked not later than Monday next, January 12. The solution will be published next Wednesday, January 14, and all competitors will be notified of the result not later than February 6, qualifiers being informed whether they will be required to attempt the eliminator puzzle mentioned below.

Regional finals will be one-day (four-puzzle) events as follows: Birmingham, March 15, Grand Hotel (capacity 150 competitors); Edinburgh, March 29, George Hotel (100); York, April 12, Viking Hotel (100); Bristol, May 17, Dragonara Hotel (150); Chester, June 7, Grosvenor Hotel (120); London A, July 18, Europa Hotel (250); London B, July 19, Europa Hotel (250). *No reference books or other aids may be used during the puzzle sessions.* Refreshments will be provided free.

If the all-correct entries for any venue exceed the accommodation available competitors will be required to attempt the eliminator puzzle which will be published (if it is needed) on Friday, February 13. Competitors are warned that this will be a more than usually difficult puzzle, but incomplete (or only partly correct) solutions may well qualify, since only the least successful entries will be eliminated.

Competitors at a regional final may qualify for the National Final in the following way. The regional winner will qualify plus one additional competitor for every 60 competitors over the first 60: thus from 61-120 competitors two will qualify for the final, from 121-180 three will qualify, and so on. The qualifiers from the seven regional finals together with the National Crossword Champion for 1980 will attend the National Final at the Piccadilly Hotel, London, on Sunday, September 6.

Langs Supreme's prizes include the following: each regional champion will win a Langs Supreme Trophy and luxury weekend for two to London for the National Final, including first class rail travel, de luxe hotel accommodation, theatre tickets and meals. Prizes will be awarded to the next three places at each regional final. Additional qualifiers will have their hotel and rail travel expenses paid to the National Final. The winner of the Championship receives the Langs Supreme Trophy, a weekend for two in Paris and a gold Cartier fountain pen. The runner-up will win a weekend for two in Paris, third place a weekend for two in Amsterdam and fourth place a weekend for two in London or Edinburgh. Further prizes will be awarded down to eighth place.

In the event of any dispute the decision of the Crossword Editor of *The Times* will be final. Employees of Times Newspapers Ltd, The Glenfyne Distillery Company Ltd and Grand Metropolitan Hotels may not compete.

I enclose cheque/PO for £1.50 or two crushed Langs Supreme Scotch Whisky bottle tops, my entry fee for the 1981 Langs Supreme *Times National Crossword Championship*, with stamped and addressed envelope.

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Choice of venue ....
(Only one choice, but London applicants available for either London A or B should simply enter "London")

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,419

ACROSS

1 Liberal old Russian—beery type, might one guess? (9).
6 Printer's finishing touch to Times leader (5).
9 Not quite certain to get by? You have to excel (7).
10 Talk in Africa of some impala? Very likely (7).
11 This insect appears to be adhesive (5).
12 Coat of wild dog found in tree perhaps? (9).
14 Lancelot's predecessor, dear to many (3).
15 Maybe alleviate very quietly so improper a word (11).
17 Swift as this, the poison killing Hamlet's father (11).
19 Knows, 'twas said, the unit of power (3).
20 He makes text's content easier to understand (9).
22 Laetitia, bagging Ernest—*somewhat refractive* (5).
24 A summer's work benefits the dustmen (7).
26 Start to hunt an ugly wild antelope (7).
27 Are you, as it's said, wary of this glen, huntsman? (5).
28 Enjoyment of this part of the grounds (9).

DOWN

1 Nothing like one's relief finding water here (5).
2 War dog (7).
3 The cosh game (9).
4 An epitaph? In the bag—not one error (11).
5 The hoped-for end for one who waits (3).
6 Monsieur left fish in his reception-room (5).
7 Old fiddle featured in unusual air, of course (7).
8 Bully beef stuffing? (9).
13 Learn device for arranging rescue (11).
14 Appropriate—for one searching in Kent? (9).
16 A harvest on poor soil in Athens (9).
18 "*Up, Times!*"—*new drive* (7).
19 Requirement for entry, say, in handicap race (3-2).
21 Friendship with girl without *sex-appeal* (5).
23 Jerry's black eye (5).
25 Family doctor holds a pass (3).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,418

PROFIT SUCKLING / TABERNACLE COWL / SHALLOON RASCAL / CHANDLER / LITERATI SETS / LINNET DIAMETER / CAST CLODHOPPER / DEADHEAD STRATH

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(continued on page 20)

Printed and Published by Times Newspapers Limited at New Printing House Square, Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ, England. Telephone: 01-837 1234. Telex: 264971. Friday, January 9, 1981. Registered as a newspaper at the Post Office.

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